





Journal
OF THE
Architectural, Archæological,
AND
Historic Society
For the County and the City of Chester,
and North Wales



New Series—Vol. XX.

Printed and Published for the Society
By G. R. GRIFFITH, LTD., GROSVENOR STREET, CHESTER

1914

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Chester Archaeological Society.

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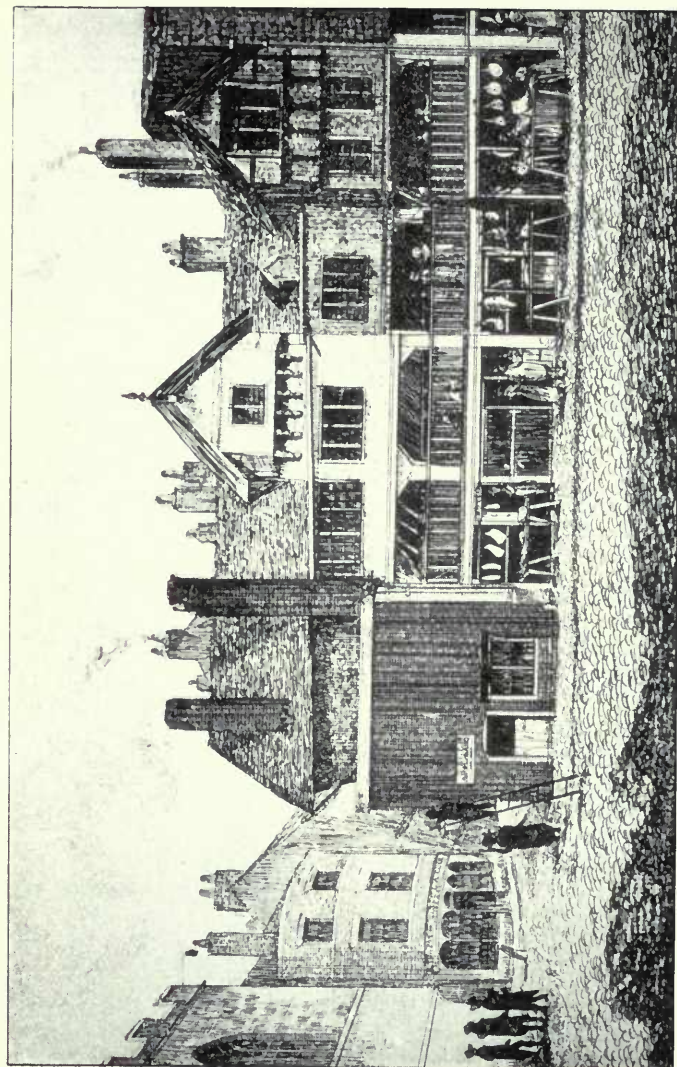
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 Glove hanging at S.E. angle of St. Peter's Church
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The Council of the Chester and North Wales Archæological and Historic Society desire it to be known that the Authors of any Papers printed in the Society's Journal are alone responsible for the statements or opinions contained in such Papers.

This Volume has been edited and indexed by the Rev. F. G. Slater, M.A., Hon. Editorial Secretary.

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The City Gilds of Chester: The Smiths, Cutlers, and Plumbers' Company

BY FRANK SIMPSON, F.S.A.

(Read 22nd October, 1912)

THIS Company ranks eleventh on the list of the twenty-three existing City Companies, and bears the title of Smiths, Cutlers, and Plumbers'. The Smiths' and the Cutlers' are very ancient gilds, the Plumbers' were not incorporated until 9. James I.¹ (1612).

The Company was not always known by this title; in 1490 it was described as "the Company of Smyths, Cutlers, Pewterers, ffounders, Cardmakers, Girdlers, Headmakers, Wiredrawers, & Spurriers." About the middle of the 17th century the title was changed to that of the "Smyths, Cutlers, Pewterers, Cardmakers, Plumers, Girdlers, Spurriers, Arrowhead makers, Armorers, and Bellfounders," but about 1632 the last-named craft appears to have died out, and subsequently that name is omitted from the title of the Company.

"The ffounders" had the entire control and stamping of brass weights, with power to search for and deface defective weights.

The Pewterers were empowered to search and assay all merchandise belonging to the craft; so careful were

¹ Randle Holme's *Academy of Armory*. Roxburghe Club edition, p. 407.

they in examining the alloys which were brought into the manufacture, that it is recorded English Pewter was long held in much estimation in foreign countries.

The Cardmakers were people who made carding-blocks, used for opening flocks or wool. These carding-blocks or machines were formed of two pieces of wood, lined with leather, through which were placed a great number of steel wires or needles. The one with the needles uppermost was fixed to a stand, and the flocks or wool placed on it; the other was used in the hands, and worked backwards and forwards, the needles thereby tearing open the matted wool.

The Girdlers are said to owe their origin to a lay brotherhood of the Order of St. Lawrence, members maintaining themselves by the making of girdles, and voluntarily associating for the purpose of mutual protection, and for the regulation of the trade which they practised. One of the regulations insisted on bad work, when found out, being burnt. The subsequent disuse of the girdle, which was formerly an important article of dress, has made the trade obsolete as a separate craft for the past two centuries.

The Wire-drawers eventually parted from this Company and joined on with that of the Cappers, Pinners, and Linen Drapers. Their chief work was in the art of drawing and flattening gold and silver wire, and the making and spinning of gold and silver thread.

The Spurriers were those who made spurs, of which the finest collection in the kingdom is to be seen at the Guildhall, London.

The other titles explain themselves.

THE REGISTERS

The Smiths, Cutlers, and Plumbers' has in its possession two registers, or minute books, and one receipt book. An earlier book is in the British Museum, and considerable information in regard to this Company is contained in the Harleian MSS. Collection.

The first book is of long folio size and measures 20 inches in depth and 9 inches in width; it is bound in full calf, and has the remains of three clasps attached to it.

The first five leaves are of vellum and contain the Rules or Orders of the Company. The rest of the volume consists of hand-made paper. Following the rules, page 14, are the names of the two Aldermen, two Stewards, and forty-eight brethren of the Company for the year ending the third day of July, 1637:—

“1637
1638 The names of the whole Companie or Societie of Smiths, Cutlers, Pewterers, Cardmakers, Plummers, and Girdlers in the Cittie of Chester for one whole yeare endinge the thirde Day of Julie 1637 beinge Accompte and Elecon [Election] Daye.

MR. RAPHE HOLMES	} Aldermen
THOMAS HOLMES	
JOHN RYDER	} Stewards
EDWARD CRONCKE	

Thomas Smith	William Meacocke
Thomas Joynson	John Smith, Pewterer
Thomas Jones Sen.	Hugh Stockton
Thomas Locker	Humfre Streete
Peter Cottrell	Henrie Hassellwall

Thomas Taylor	Richard Welshe
Richard Weterham	Thomas Malbone
Richard Carrington	Thomas Tildesley
John Mowneford	Thomas Hawkeshead
Thomas Gilbert	William Page
John Powell	Robert Ashton
Cadwallader Edwards	John Warton
James Ball	Roger Evans
Peter Price	Richard Fformebe
Thomas Morris	John Evans
Thomas Smith	Anthonie Niccall
John Malbone	George Pickavance
William Cowles	Thomas Ryder
George Meacocke	David Griffith
Thomas Stockton	William Lewis
John Joynson	John Morris
Robert Johnson	John Gough
Thomas Jones Jun.	Phillipp Jackson
William Locker	William Cranke."

This register book does not appear to have been purchased until 1637, for in the disbursements for the year ending 7th July, 1638, we find :—

		s.	d.
"November 5,	Payed for this new booke	„	x „
1637	Spent when our clerk did		
	write all our orders into		
	our new booke	„	„ xij "

In 1679 "a new paper booke" was purchased for 2s. 6d., but of this there is no further record. "A New Folio paper book" was purchased June 3rd, 1757, at a cost of 6s. This would be Volume II., now in the possession of the Company and still in use. It measures 13 inches by 8 inches, bound in full calf, and bears on

the cover a red leather label on which is inscribed in gold lettering :—

“ RICH: BROCK	} Ald:
HOLME BURROWES	
JOHN THOMAS	} S.
JAMES BUTLER	
1757.”	

Inside the cover are the names of the twenty-five City Companies existing at that time :—

- “ 1 Tanners
- 2 Merchant Drapers & Hosiers
- 3 Brewers
- 4 Barbers & Tallow Chandlers
- 5 Copper Pinners, Wire drawers, and Lynen Drapers
- 6 Bricklayers
- 7 Slaters
- 8 Joiners, Carvers, Turners
- 9 Painters, Glaziers, Stationers
- 10 Goldsmiths, Clockmakers
- 11 Smiths, Cutlers, Pewterers, Cardmakers & Plum-
bers
- 12 Butchers
- 13 Glovers
- 14 Cordwainers
- 15 Bakers
- 16 Fletchers, Bowyers, Coopers & Stringers
- 17 Mercers, Grocers, Ironmongers & Apothecaries
- 18 Innholders, Cooks & Victuallers
- 19 Feltmakers & Skinners
- 20 Saddlers & Curriers
- 21 Tailors
- 22 Fishmongers
- 23 Clothmakers, Walkers [Fullers] & Masons
- 24 Dyers
- 25 Weavers.”

should not be hadd made and vsed would arise depend and be. Therefore the said severall Occupaçons and our Companie generallie have fullie Agreed the Articles and Orders hereafter followinge devised and made the xxiiijth day of Julie in the Sixteenth yeare of the Raigne of Kinge Henrie the Seaventh. Then beinge Maior of Chester Thomas ffishcer, and James Mandley and Richard Walton Sheriffs. Anno Dⁿⁱ 1490.”²

The loyalty of the Company is shewn by the following Oaths, which had to be taken by the Aldermen, Stewards, and Brethren of the Company :

The Oath of the Aldermen :—

“I will be Just and true unto the Kinge and Queene of England their Heires and Successors and to the Maior of Chester for the tyme beinge And will beare and drawe and do all things with my Companie of the said Occupaçons as appertaineth or which I ought to doe accordinge to the Accustomed Order therefore used And will instruct my said Companie with my best councell and Advice in all matters convenient to the uttermost of my power and knowledge So helpe me God and holie Dame and by the Contents of this Booke.”

The Oath of the Stewards :—

“I will be obedient to my Aldermen of my Companie for the tyme beinge, and will dilligentlie and dylie applie myne office as I ought to do And will make true Accompte of all Reccipts and payments which I shalbe Charged withall Duringe the tyme of my beinge Steward of the said Companie Soe helpe me God and holie Dame and by the Contents of this Booke.”

² 24 July, 16 Henry VII. would be 1501. 1500-1, Thomas Ferrour, or Ferrar, was Mayor, and the Sheriffs were James Manley and Richard Walton.

The Oath of the Brotherhood :—

“I will Obey my Aldermen and Stewards and my Elder brethren in orderlie Manner and Sorte and theire Councell concerninge the Companie aforesaid keepe And beare and drawe with them accordinge to my Power. And be readie att anie Meetinge of the saide Companie together upon Due Warning unto mee given by the Stewards of the said Companie or either of them unles I have greate Occasion otherwise Soe helpe me God and holie Dame and by the Contents of this Booke.”

ATTENDING THE MEETINGS.

The first rule, or order, of this Company was that every brother should attend the meetings.

RULE I 1490

“It is ordered and fullie agreed upon by the whole Companie aforesayd That everie brother of the said Companie not Cominge to anie meetinge beinge orderlie warned by the Stewards of the said Companie or either of them shall forfeitt and presentlie paye—vi^d for everie tyme soe absenting himself And if the same person so doinge make defalte & denys to pay the same, then the Stewards of the same Companie shall take a Stresse [distress] and keepe it untill he have payed the same ffine to be employed to the use of the sayd Companie.

And further yt is ordered that if they come after the Booke is called and staye, that then they shall pay iii^d.”

RULE II

“Item It is ordered that noe brother of the said Companie after his appearance att anie of our meetings shall not dwell there without the Lycence of the Aldermen and Stewards.”

July 18, 1757. Randle Reece, Robert Cowdock, and John Johnson were fined one shilling each for not attending the meeting held that day.

At a meeting held 21st July, 1760,

“John Johnson and William Briscoe the younger not having for some time appeared to bear and draw with the Company It is ordered that their Names shall not for the future be entered amongst the Company.”

At a meeting held at the “Bull’s Head,” July 23, 1864,

“It was proposed and carried that each and every member belonging to the above Society shall pay if absent at the Annual Meeting the sum of 3s. 6d,” and the following year the fine for this offence was increased to five shillings.

The Company endeavoured to settle all differences between the various members, and that no brother should sue another until the Aldermen and Stewards were informed of the complaint.

RULE III

“That noe brother shall sue one another or complaine against one another till the[y] have made the Aldermen & Stewards acquainted.”

RULE IV

“It is ordered that if any variance fall between brother and brother of the said Companie then such persons whom such variance is betweene shall com-
premitt themselves to the arbitrament of their Aldermen & Stewards and in case they cannot agree them then to have libertie to complaine further on payne of vi^s viii^d to be duly payed to the aforesaid without abatement any pcell thereof.”

The Company was very careful in protecting the various crafts forming its Gild, and prompt to suppress any outsiders (non-freemen) following their trade in the city. It should be borne in mind that only freemen of the city had the right to trade in the city at all times. During the great fairs, which were held twice a year, a glove attached to a chain was hung out at the south-east angle of St. Peter's Church.³ This notified that the Chester fair was being held, and that strangers had permission to trade within the city until the glove was withdrawn. These fairs commenced on the 5th July and the 10th October, each lasting fifteen days. They were recognised as established fairs by the Charter of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester. Immediately the glove was withdrawn, the freemen of the city asserted their rights, and the non-freemen who continued to sell their wares were summoned to appear before the Mayor of the city, and fined.

RULE V 1490

"It is ordered that anie brother of the Said Companie having anie kinde of Worke of any persons or promised the worke of anie person or agreed to worke the same noe brother of the said Companie shall take the same in hand or meddle therewith in anie wise without the consent of such his brother whom hath the same such worke in hand or is promised to have the same upon the fforfeyt & payment of vi^s viii^d to be payd without anie abatement to those aforesaid.

THOMAS EDYAN	}	Aldermen
WALTER ANDREWS		
RICHARD TOTTYE	}	Stewards."
THOMAS SMYTH		

³ See Frontispiece.

⁴ Thomas Edyan was the Smith to whom Prince Arthur presented, on behalf of the Company, the Silver Medal or Badge.

Order for Smiths' and Cutlers':—

RULE VII

"August the 29th 1580

It is ordered that whereas variance & controversie grewe between the Smiths & Cutlers there shall not anie Cutler or ffurbearer mende or dresse anie gunne or blackbill or any other thinge belonginge to the Blacksmiths trade. but it is lawfull for them to sell them beinge brought to their shopp And also the said Smiths shall not deale with anie of their worke in payne of anie of our brethren doing the contrarie to pay for a ffyne vi^s viii^d."

"And by consent of the sayed whole Company the xiiith of August 1629, this last aforesaid order is Confirmed for ever."

RULE IX

"It is ordered & agreed at our meetinge the Third Day of Aprill 1583, that if anie of our brethren doe sett a Journeyman at worke that is newlie come to this Cittie to gett worke that the said Brother shall come to the Aldermen or Stewards to demand lycense of them or either of them And not to keepe the same Journeyman or Journeymen above one daye before he gett licence in payn of anie of our brethren dooinge the contrari to pay for a ffyne iii^s iiij^d."

A marginal note says:—

"Vacated vide fol 9: c: for another order."

"CARDMAKERS WORKE"

RULE XVIII

"It is agreed that there shall not anie of our brethren sett a stranger on worke to anie other thinge but settinge and Crookinge, in payne of payinge for a ffyne to our saide Companie the sume of vi^s viii^d

Except he be a Journeyman and have served VII yeares att the least as an Apprentice."

"INTICINGE SERVANTS &C."

RULE XIX

"It is agreed upon the seaventh Day of March 1606 by the Consent of the whole Companie that if any brother thereof doe att any tyme hereafter invyte procure or allure anie apprentice, Journeyman or servant out of his masters service with whom he was first bounden or retayned that everie brother therein offendinge shall for everie such offence forfeite and paye to the Stewards of the said Companie for the tyme beinge to and for the use of the same Companie unlesse such brethren doe first obtayne the good Will and lycence of the M^e [master] of such Apprentice, Journeyman or Servant soe inticed procured or allured the sume of x^s."

CUTLERS AND GIRDRLERS

RULE XXIII

"20 Martij 1626

Whereas there hath been heretofore divers tymes much debate and controversie betwixt the Cutlers & Girdlers about intermedlinge with one anothers trade and profession It is now ordered and Agreed upon att our Meeting this day houlden by a generall consent of our Companie That the Cutlers shall not att anie tyme hereafter sell anie manner of Girdles belts or hangers neither any Girdler to sell anie blades or knyfes or any other Comoditie whatsoever which belongeth to the trade of a Cutler but everie severall tradesman to use his owne trade profession or occupacion of Cutler or Girdler and not otherwise. Whosoever doth make default herein shall forfeit and paye to our Stewards for our Companies use everie severall tyme soe offendinge therein xx^s."

SETTING OF SHOES, ETC.

“Decimo Tertio Die

December 1646.

It is Ordered by the whole consent of our Company that noe brother of our said Company shall sett any shoes small or greate upon any horse hereafter under 3^d a shoe nor any remove under one penny & remove without further Ord^r by our said Company to the contrary upon payne for every time offending to the contrary to pay for a fyne xx^s.”

“And it is ordered the second of ffebruary 1647 that this order from henceforth be putt in execution.

Secundo Die

ffebruary 1647.”

“December the 6th 1670. Then Ordered that the abovesaid order shall stand.”

“It is Ordered by the whole Consent of our Company that noe brother of our said Company shall buy any new ware of any one whatsoever unless it be from Chapmen that are known soe to deale in upon payne to forfeit for every default in manner of fine x^s.”

“April the 23th 1652

Memorandum . . itt is this day agreed by the whole Consent of this Companie that all the Orders within written are acknowledged by us as Witnesse our hands

GEORGE MEACOCK”

[and Thirty other signatures].

“April the 25th 1661 att a Meetinge then received from Mr. Rocke a note in the ensueinge words: ‘My desire is to live in peace with all men and not to injure any man for the procuringe whereof I shall lay downe my trade upon the obtaininge of an officers place in this City and be content to enter into sufficient bonds

not to exercise the trade of a Cutler for the time to come & pay costs of suit if the Company nor any of them shall oppose me in the obtaining of the said place In witness whereof I hereto set my hand this 25th day of Aprill 1661.

‘Aldermen &c.

If there be anything else which in reason you shall desire of me if I may understand yo^r pleasure for peace sake you shall find mee very ready to conforme & bee

Yo^r ready friend and neighbor

Joⁿ ROCK.’”

When being admitted to the Company, the applicant had to take an oath that he would follow the trade he had served his apprenticeship to only:—

“Memorand: that upon the 24th Day of January 1653 [? 1683] I Randle Ince being to be admitted a free brother of the Company Doe hereby promise and agree that I will practise and follow the trade of a Smith only which I was bound unto by my Indentures of apprenticeship And will not practise or follow any other Trade belonging to any other Brother that is joyned with or admitted into this Company

The mark of Randle × Ince

Witness Thomas Massie.”

“Memorand that upon the 8th of May 1684 I Robert Cowdock being to be admitted a free brother of this Company do hereby promise and agree that I will practize & follow my trade of a Smith only, which I was bound unto by my Indentures of Apprentiship And I will not practize or follow any other trade belonging to any other brother that is joyned with or admitted into this Company.

The Mark of Robert + Cowdock

Witness Thomas Massie.”

The following also signed similar oaths:—

" June 17	1685	Joseph Buckley	Smith
" "	"	William Quick	"
March 19	"	Peter Alcock	"
April 3	1693	Samuel Peter Alcock Broughill	Blacksmith
July 25	"	John Page	"
" "	"	John Broster	Pewterer
March 26	1694	Thomas Ludman	"
" 28	"	Griffith Malbone	Smith
" 28	1698	Maurice Briscoe	"
" "	"	Charles Malbone	"
Sept 12	1699	Thomas Brocke	Pewterer
" "	"	John Tudor	"
Oct 17	"	Ellis Hughes	"
Sept 19	1704	Randle Burrowes	Cutler
March 1	1712	John Griffies	Plumber
May 12	1724	Richard Brock	Scalemaker
Nov 3	1727	Robert Brock	Smith
" "	"	Samuel Hostage	"
" "	"	Robert Cowdocke	"
" "	"	Charles Malbone	"
July 16	1729	James Williamson	"
Nov 23	1730	William Huntingdon	"
Feb 4	1731	George Totty	"
Aug 13	1734	William Briscoe	"
Oct 7	"	Joseph Alcock	"
" "	"	Tho ^s Alcock	"
Nov 5	"	Francis Buckley	"
Feb 10	"	Thomas Brook	Brazier & Pewterer
" "	"	George Griffiths	Plumber
Aug 24	1736	John Briscoe	Smith
" 23	1737	Roger Dawson	"
May 31	1738	George Griffes	Plumber
Nov 21	"	William Painter	"
Aug 27	1739	Holme Burrows	Cutler
Nov 5	1743	Richard Briscoe	Smith "

"It is ordered and Agreed upon att a Meeting of the Companie held the eighth Day of October 1711 that if att any time hereafter any Joyrniman or Joyrnimen shall resort or come to the Citty of Chester to get worke or to be imployed by or under any Brother or Brothers of this Companie that such Brother or Brothers who shall hereafter imploy or set att worke any such Joyrniman or Joyrnimen shall within six days next after such Joyrniman or Joyrnimen shall come to work or bee imployed by such Brother or Brothers as aforesaid give personall notice to the Ald[er]men of this Companie for the time being or one of them that such Joyrniman or Joyrnimen is or are imployed to worke under such Brother or Brothers. And that such Brother or Brothers shall alsoe within the time aforesaid cause the name or names of such Joyrniman or Joyrnimen to be entered in the Joyrnimens booke kept by this Companie for that purpose signifieing that such Joyrniman or Joyrnimen is and are imployd to work under such Brother or Brothers soe entering their name or names or causing the same to bee entered in the said Book. And it is further ordered and Agreed upon that if any Brother or Brothers of this Companie shall imploy or keepe in his Service any such Joyrniman or Joyrnimen fourteen Days or above from the time of his or their beginning to worke such Brother or Brothers shall from henceforth pay to this Companie such Joyrniman or Joyrnimens fees and such as have been heretofore paid to this Companie on the forfeiture to the use of this Company of any Brother or Brothers failing therein or doing the contrary the sume of three shillings and four pence. And it is further Agreed that a former order of this Companie entered in this Book Dated the third Day of Aprill 1583 shall from henceforth bee void and of noe force or effect."

Various fines were imposed on the members for breach of the foregoing rules:—

“ April 11. 1637	Received of William Lewis for Wronginge our Companie in keepinge shopp before he was a M[aste]r	s. d. ,, ij vi
	Spent Examininge John Powell and his man about Wronginge our Company	,, ij „
	Payd for Wyne att takeinge upp a stranger shoeinge horses att the Redd Lyon	,, „ viij
1638	Rec ^d of John Morris for settinge a man at Worke without lycence ,, of the Journeymen to be sett att work	,, „ xvi ,, vii iiij
April 25	Spent at takeinge up Swift for Sellinge wares upon Wednesday after the ffayer w ^{ch} Mr fitton had	,, „ xii
1639	paid for the petiçon concerninge the Pewterers ag st Mownford	,, ii „
1640	P ^d and Spent in procureinge & prosecuting the Naylor to force them putt in security & bound outt for buyinge of ould Iron in the Citty, or otherwise wronge- aign the Companye	,, ij vi
	P ^d to the clark for makeinge three bonds to bynde outt the Naylor & for frameaige the Petiçon to the Assembly against the Cutler of Gloverstone	,, ij vi
	P ^d to the clarke of the Pentice his fee for the saide petiçon to passe his Consentt	,, „ xij

1641	Spent the 26 th of March aboutt takaigh bond of the Tinker that made Pewter spoons against the Pewterers	s.	d.
		„	„ x
1642	P[ai]d to two officers for fetching the Cutler before the Mayor	„	„ viij
1643	P[ai]d to George Robbins for go- inge with us the lat[t]er faire Day att Michaelmas to Warne chap- men to forbear sellinge wares after the tyme	„	„ iiij
	P ^d to the Yeoman of the Pentice for callinge some of them before Mr Mayor the Day following	„	„ xij
1647	Spent when we took a man buying iron	00	00 08
	Spent about the arrest of the Smiths	00	02 06
1648	Given to an officer to fetch Richard Bridg	00	00 08
1649	Spent when we went aboute to put downe the fforeiners at Michel- mas	00	01 00
	Spent for the cawlinge of the man before Mr Maior which bought ould Iron & Spent then	00	01 08
	Given to the officers about the putting down the fforinners at Midsomer	00	01 00
1650	Spent in arresting of Will ^m Hatton with ffees to the officers	00	06 05
1654	Given to John Wildinge for shut- ting downe the windows at Michaelmas	00	01 06
	Given to John Wildinge for shut- ting downe the windows at Midsomer	00	01 06

COMPANIES OF CHESTER

23

		£	s.	d.
1655	Spent at takeinge Rocks knives	00	01	06
	Given Mr Ratcliff a fee about Rocks business	00	05	00
1656	Paid for arresting of James Marsh	00	01	08
	Paid for the Declaration	00	02	00
	Given for [serving] the execution of Marsh	00	02	04

A great number of prosecutions took place during this year.

1657	Spent about the pedler in Hand- bridge	00	00	08
1660	August 7 paid & spent in the arresting a man for sellinge of spindles and causeing him to enter into bond	00	01	00
	Sept 29 Given to John Wildinge for takeinge up ye forraigners at lat[t]er end of the ffaire	00	02	00
	Paid to clerke in goinge about Mr Rocks suite	0	2	6
	P ^d to Mr Brerewood & Mr Rowe for counsell	1	10	0
1661	P ^d to Mr Buckley for makeinge the Records up against Mr Rocke in Maiors C ^{rt}	1	0	0
1662	Sept 29 Spent at the shutting of the fforeigners shoppes	0	1	0
1663	March 2 paid Mr Acton for his fees in Rockes Suit	1	15	0
1666	Paid the clerke for 2 Speciall bonds for 2 Wiggen men	0	2	0
1672	Paid to an Officer to take Downe fforreigners stalls at faire	0	2	0
1673	Spent at putting Downe Mr Smiths windowes & going before the Mayor	0	2	4

		£	s.	d.
1677	Spent at takeing up a Glasier for mending a Cistern	o	o	4
1699	P ^d for running downe the fforeigners	o	1	o
1701	Spent about a Razor Grinder	o	2	o
	Aug 13 P ^d to an Officer for putting Downe the fforeigners att the ffair	o	1	o
1745	July 30 Paid for Warning down the Hardware men	o	1	o
1755	July 12 Giving the Hardware men Notice to leave the Town at the end of the fair	o	1	o
1780	Sept 19 Spent at the Three Horse Shoes at a Meeting of the Com- pany on account of the non ffreemen	o	7	4
	Paid the Recorder ^s for his advice	o	10	6"

No man was allowed to monopolize trade by having two shops within the liberties of the City:—

“ May the 24th 1697 att a Meeting then held. It is this day ordered and Agreed by the unanimous consent of the Companie of Smiths, Cutlers, Pewterers, Cardmakers and Plummers within the Citty of Chester that noe Brother of the said Company from henceforth Shall keepe open two shopps within the said Citty at one time to vend or sell goods in for Lucre or gain upon payne of forfeiting for every such offence to the use of this Company the sume of Ten Shillings.

THOS. BRADSHAW	}	Aldermen
JOHN PAGE		
GEORGE CARMAN	}	Stewards"

[and ten other Signatures.]

^s Robert Townshend.

"COMINGE TO BURIALLS"

The brethren always accompanied a departed brother, his wife, children, or any of his family to their last resting place. Upon these occasions they had to wear their cloaks or gowns, otherwise they were fined.

RULE VI 1490

"It is ordered by consent of the whole Companie that if anie of our brethren be absent att the buriall of any of oure brethren or Sisters they beinge warned by the Stewards excepte they have a reasonable cause to the contrarie to paye for every offence so committed to the contrarie the some of vi^d & further to stay the bodie entombed or else to forfeit vi^d."

" 1546	For Wax Candles at buringe Roger Sprag's wife	-	-	1
	Payd to the Preste	-	xij	iiij
1639	Spent upon Peter Piers buriel	-	-	xxij
	Paid for the buriall of Richard Wenham	-	vij	-
	Spent after the buriell	-	ij	-
	Spent after the buriall of our Ald[erman] Thomas Holmes	-	-	xvi
1641	Spent at the buryall of our late brother Robertt Johnson att Thomas Taylors house	-	ij	ii
1660	Given to Urien in his sickness	0	10	0
	Sept 29 Paid for a coffin for him	0	8	0
	Paid for Cakes at his buriall	0	5	0
	Paid for Candles bread and Drinke the night he died	0	1	0
1666	Feb 28. P ^d at the buryinge of Thomas Smith in Cakes, Drinke, Sugar, and Church Duties	0	12	6

1667	June 13. P ^d at the buriall of Widdow Smith for bread and for drinke for the funeral	o	7	o
	Paid for Church Duties	o	6	o
	Paid for Nutmegs and Ginger	o	o	6
1672	P ^d Churchwardens for Cowdocks funeral	o	4	2
	P ^d for Coffin 6/8 and for Bread 5/-	o	11	8
	P ^d for Drinke att his funerall	1	o	10
	P ^d to the Widdow	o	1	6
1682	May 29. Spent at the funerall of brother Ashton for Drinke and Cakes	o	16	o
	P ^d for a Coffin	o	7	o
	„ for black to cover the coffin	o	1	o
	„ for Church fees	o	8	4
1726	June 21 Spent at the funerall of Brother W ^m Quick	o	6	8
	Given to the Souldiers of the Militia attending the funerall William Quick being one of the Sarjeants	o	2	6
1783	Paid for Searching for the Burials of Griffith Malbone & others formerly Members of this Com- pany	o	3	o

RULE VIII

“It is ordered and agreed att our meetinge the xith daye of Januarie 1582 by all the voyces of the brethren that all such somes of money as is gathered for quarterage & for ffynes the same shalbee employed for the reliefe of our poore brethren and other necessities & the same not to be delivered without consent of our brethren att a meetinge.”

"WRONGE COMPLAINTS"

RULE X

"It is ordered & agreed whereas variance hath fallen out amongst the brethren for misdemeanours by them Committed that if anie brother doe complaine against another, excepte he canne prove the same by his oath or by witnesse within such tyme as the Aldermen & Stewards shall appoynte him or them that doe complayne, they shall pay for everye such default ii^s vi^d."

It was necessary to have such a rule as the above, as the following case testifies:—

"1637. 27 Martij. Payd to the Officers to
fetch Geo. Meacocke & his man
twice before the Maior - - xxii"

It is quite evident that the charge against Mr. Meacock and his man was not sustained, for the following year we find:—

"Rec^d of William Lewis for wronge
informacion agst George Mea-
cocke concerninge unlawfull
words - - xviii"

TO KEEP SECRETS

RULE XI

"It is ordered and agreed by Consent of our Companie that if anie of our Brethren doe disclose or reveale anie secretts or Conversation which is or shalbe hadd or spoken of att anie of our meetings in our meetinge house, they shall pay for everie such offence x^d."

At a Meeting held January 13, 1780, it was ordered that:—

“If any Brother or Member of this Company shall at anytime hereafter Divulge or Publish any of the Orders or Secrets of this Company, He shall for every such offence forfeit and pay Five Shillings.”

June 19, 1797, Thomas Totty, a brother of the Company, was fined Five Shillings for “disclosing the Secrets belonging to the Company And also one shilling for swearing.”

For the peaceful procedure of the meetings, it was necessary to make a rule

“AGAINST DISTURBENCE”

RULE XII

“It is ordered & agreed that if anie matter be in hearinge or talkinge of before the Aldermen & Companie that what brother or brethren doe disturbe or interrupt the Companie eyther by Brablinge or talkinge one to another, beinge once commanded to keepe sylence by the Aldermen or Stewards whosoever offendeth herein shall pay for a fyne vi^d.”

At a meeting held August 25, 1773, a minute states:—

“It appearing to this Company that William Page a Brother of this Company used very indecent and abusive language towards Mr William Davies, one of the Stewards, and several other Brothers of this Company at Mr Birds at the Talbot immediately after the last Meeting. It is ordered that the said William Page shall be and he hereby is fined half-a-crown for such abusive and indecent Behaviour.”

At a meeting held 22nd July, 1799, at "The Boot," Eastgate Street:—

"It was Ordered that Mr Hassall a Brother of this Company be fined Two Guineas for jointly with Mr William Huntington stealing & carrying away the Books belonging to the Company from Mr Manwairings of the 'Coach & Horses' in Northgate Street the 16th July 1798.

And the said Mr Hassall not to be admitted untill he pays the above fine.

Also it is Ordered that Mr Robert Allcock another Brother of this Company be fined five shillings For abuseing the said Company to Mr Briscoe & Mr Totty & calling the said Company a parcel of Rogues & Scoundrels, and not be admitted untill he pays the said fine

THOMAS BARNES	}	Ald ^m
JA ^s BUTLER		
W ^m DAVIES	}	Stewards"
BENJ ^m BARNES		

In a later case, a member was ordered to be expelled from the Company for using "abusive language to both Aldermen and stewards of the Company."

ELECTION DAY

The election of Aldermen and Stewards of the Company originally took place on the first Monday after St. Peter's day [29th June] when all arrears of payment due to the Company had to be settled.

In the minutes of the annual meeting, held July 6th, 1585, it is stated:—

"It is Ordered and approved the vith daye of Julie 1585 by the consent of our Companie that there shall not anie of our brethren receave anie duetie of or from

our Companie untill such tymes as he have just payed in Dutie Due to our Companie And everie brother to make even with our Companie at everie yeares ende att the furthest v^d."

RULE XVI

"It is fullie agreed upon the third Daye of Julie 1592 that Election Daye shall bee everi yeare upon the Monday after St. Peter's daye in payne of forfeiture x^s."

"July the 18th 1661

Memorand it is fully agreed by the whole Company of Smiths, Cutlers, Pewterers, Cardmakers and Plummers etc that the said Company shall have foure severall meeteings quarterly, that is to say [1] the Election Day beinge the Monday after the feast of St. Peter, [2] the second meetinge the Monday after the feast of St. Michael, [3] the third meetinge the Monday after the feast of New Yeares Day: the last meetinge after the feast of the Annunciacion of the blessed Virgin Mary, and soe quarterly to cleare the Stewards off upon all accounts upon forfeit of . . [no sum named]."

"Tertio Die Auguste 1699

Ordered and Agreed upon by the unanimous Consent of this Companie that they will for the time to come pay and discharge the Stewards of this Companie whatever moneys they shall Disburse or lay out upon the Companies behalfe or Account att every Quarter Day. And that if any Steward of this Company for the time to come shall refuse to Disburse or lay out moneys upon the Companies Account shall forfeite and pay to the use of this Companie the Sume of ffive shillings."

“Eod[em] Die et Ano

Ordered and Agreed upon by the unanimous Consent of this Companie that henceforth att every Election Day att the bringing home of the two Aldermen hereafter to bee elected and chosen to serve this Companie there shall bee spent and allowed by this Companie the sūme of thirteen shillings and four pence and noe more, and soe much money and noe more shall be spent and allowed by this Companie att the bringing of the two Stewards home at the Election Day And that when it shall happen that any of the Ald[er]men or Stewards of this Companie shall happen to die or bee removed out of his or their place or office and new ones chosen in his or their Roome before the Election Day that in such case upon the bringing home of such new Ald[er]men or Stewards there shall be spent and allowed by this Companie the sum six shillings eight pence for each Ald[er]man or Steward And that at the bringing home of any person or persons hereafter to be Admitted a Brother of this Companie there shall be spent and allowed by this Companie att the bringing home of such new Brother the sume of fifteen shillings and noe more And that if any more moneys shall be spent or disbursed for any the causes aforesaid the same shall be borne and paid att the proper Costs and Charges of the Ald[er]men and Stewards of this Companie for the time being.”

“Nono Die October 1699

Ordered by the Consent of this Companie that if any Brother doe or shall hereafter neglect or refuse to appear att any Quarter Day to clear and pay off the Stewards of this Companie shall for such neglect forfeit and pay to the use of this Companie the sūme of two shillings and six pence unless just and reasonable cause bee shewed to the Contrary.”

"July 22nd 1726

At a Meeting this day held by the Companie of Smiths &^e within the City of Chester—

It is this Day ordered by the unanimous Consent of this Companie that every Brother thereof for the future shall att every Election Day pay his and their part and share of what moneys the Stewards of this Company shall Disburse or lay out upon the Companies account the said money to bee paid to the Stewards of this Companie for the time being And that every Brother shall also att the said Election Day pay and discharge his and their fines imposed upon them by the Companie upon forfeiture of every Brother refusing or neglecting to pay the same to pay to the use of this Companie the sume of Six Shillings and Eight pence."

"July ye 20th 1730 At a Meeting this day held by the Company of Smiths &^e within the City of Chester it is Agreed upon by the Major part of the said Company that Whereas Thomas Ludman, Thomas Bavand, Randle Buckley, Thomas Sant, John Smith, Jonathon Prestbory and Charles Malbon Brothers of this Company did not att the last Election day of the Company Appear and pay their respective share or proportions towards the paying the Stewards of this Company their Demands and Sumes of money by them paid and disburst upon the Company's Acc[oun]t We here the said persons before named or any of them since that time paid their or ea[c]h of their shares to the s[ai]d Acco[unt]s save as in the Companie's Book of Acco[unt]s is menconed It is therefore Agreed by the Major part of this Company that if the said Thomas Ludman, Thomas Bavand, Randle Buckley, Jonathan Prestbory, Thomas Sant, John Smith, and Charles Malbon or any of them Do or shall neglect or refuse to pay their several Sumes of money from them

severally due & owing to this Company att or before the next Quarter Day of the Company that such person or persons so neglecting or refusing to pay his and their respective sume & sumes of money shall bee and hereby are discharged from the Company and from thenceforth shall not bee named to appear att any Meetings to be held by this Company and that their several names shall be erased out of the Roll of this Company."

The above-named members still refusing to pay the fines, their names were crossed off the roll of the Company; but they eventually paid the fines and were re-admitted.

At the annual meeting held July 23rd, 1864, it was "Proposed and carried that each and every member belonging to the Company, if absent at the Annual Meeting shall pay the sum of Three Shillings and Sixpence each."

At a meeting held 20th July, 1885, "It was proposed and seconded that the Company's Annual Meeting shall be held in June, 1886," but up to the year 1890 it continued to be held in July. From 1890 to 1903 the annual meetings were held very irregularly, sometimes in July, August, September, October, and even November. This caused many complaints to be made by the members, including a strong protest from Brother S. K. Jones. At the meeting held July 4th, 1904, "The Steward called attention to a Rule where it states that the meeting should be held every year upon the Monday after St. Peter's day [29. June], and on the proposition of Brother F. Formstone, Seconded by Brother A. W. Chesters it was resolved that this rule be adhered to in future."

In the disbursements we find items similar to the following:—

“ 7 th July 1636.	Received of our 2 Stewards	
	for leavinge 4 of our brethren	
	unwarned to our Meetinge	- - xii
	Rec ^d of 8 brethren for theire fines	
	Denyinge to pay their accounts	
	the last Election Day	- viii -
	Rec ^d of Thomas Jones for absents	
	the last Election Day	- - vi
	Rec ^d from John Evans for same	- ii -”

The annual dinner took place on these Election days. There are some curious entries in the Books respecting them:—

“ 1641	P ^d for Meate for our banquet	- xiiij -
5 th July	„ for bread	- iij iij
	„ for Strong beare	- ix viij
	„ for Sugar Synnimon & prunes	- ij -
	„ for Wyne, Vinigor, & pepper	- - x
	„ for bakinge	- - viij
	Given to the poore woman under	
	the meetinge house	- - iij
1643	P ^d att Alderman Meacocks house	
	for our banquet after the meet-	
	ing the 4 th of July last beinge	
	the last Countt Day	ij v ij
1644	P ^d Alderman Ball for beefe, veale,	
	mutton, Salmon, pepper, vine-	
	ger, bread & beare for our ban-	
	quett	ij xiiij i
1646	P ^d for beefe	- xi ij
	„ for Veale and Mutton	- vi -
	„ Spent	- - iij
	„ for Salmon	- vi viij
	„ for bread beare and	
	all other necessarys	i vi -
	„ Tobacco and pipes	- - viij

1649	P ^d for our Dinner at Alderman Malbons house upon our Elec- tion day	iv	i	ij
	P ^d for Washing the Linen at our Dinner	-	iv	-"

And so these dinners took place annually at a cost of from £4 to £5 until 1771, when it was "Ordered that for the future the sum of one shilling and Six pence shall be allowed to the Steward for Dinner on the Election Day for every Brother of this Company And three shillings and six pence for the Liquor &° for every Brother who shall be at Dinner and not more. And that the sum of Thirty shillings shall be allowed to be spent on the Twenty Ninth of May and the like sum of Thirty Shillings on the Fifth day of November annually And that if any more than the Sums above specified shall be spent on any of the said Days The Same shall not be allowed by the Company but be paid by the Stewards for the time being out of their own pockets."

At a meeting held 12th July, 1780, it was ordered :—

"That for the future the sum of sixteen shillings shall be allowed to be spent on the Twenty ninth Day of May and the like sum of Sixteen Shillings on the Fifth Day of November annually and that if any more than the sums above specified shall be spent on any of the said Days The same shall not be allowed by the Company but be paid by the Stewards for the time being out of their own Pockets And also that the sum of Two pounds Twelve shillings and Sixpence shall be allowed to the Stewards to be laid out and Expended on the Election Day and not more And that if any more than that sum shall be spent on the Election Day The same shall not be allowed by the Company but be paid by the Stewards for the time being out of their own pockets."

Musicians were often engaged to play at these dinners, the amounts paid varying from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.

Many of the Inns at which these meetings took place have been pulled down, or the Licenses have been confiscated, and the names by which they were known forgotten, such as: The Horse and Baggs, 1724; The Plume of Feathers, Bridge Street, 1773; The Three Horse Shoes, 1780; The Castle and Falcon, 1785; The Green Dragon, Eastgate Street, 1786; The Black Bear, Foregate Street, 1787; The Bowling Green, Dee Side, 1788; The Talbot, Eastgate Street, 1789; The Black Dog, Bridge Street, 1801; The Sun Tavern, St. Peter's Church Yard, 1808; The Union Arms, Bridge Street, 1810; The White Talbot, Newgate Street, 1813; The Sun, Princess Street, 1814; The Three Legs of Man, Northgate Street, 1819; The Black Horse, Bridge Street, 1827; The Three Crowns, Pepper Alley, 1831; The Rose and Thistle, Newtown, 1832; The Smiths Arms, 1832; The Sign of the Board, Wellington Street, 1840; The Albion Tavern, Watergate Street, 1842; The Duke of York, Frodsham Street, 1856; The Bulls Head, Northgate Street, 1864; The Pig and Whistle, Princess Street, 1871; The Harp and Crown, Bridge Street, 1874; The Leopold Inn, Foregate Street, 1883; The George and Dragon, Linenhall Street, 1896.

At a meeting held May, 1607, it was decided that every brother should wear his cloak, or gown, when present at meetings or burials.

RULE XX

"It is ordered and Agreed by the whole Companie att a meetinge held the xxvith Day of May 1607, that everie brother who shalbe warned to anie Assemblie

or Meetinge or to the buriall of anie brother or Sister shall come to everie such meetinge or buriall in his gowne in decent manner upon payne of forfeite for everie defalte the soume of vi^d."

The livery had formerly consisted of a coat trimmed with fur, and a surcoat with a white girdle, but about the middle of the 16th century this was changed for a long gown with fur trimmings around the neck and hanging behind the shoulder, what is described as "a tippet"; and in addition a hat, or cap, similar to that now generally worn by city aldermen. In colour, the clothing was black, divided in equal halves by either scarlet or green.

" 1661	Paid for alteringe and Ironneinge the Tippets	. 4 6
1741	Paid for cloth for a Tippet making and materials	. 8 7"

The Company was very strict in the observance of Sunday.

RULE XV

"It is fullie agreed upon the Tenth Day of Maye 1592 that there shall not anie of our Brethren or Sisters of our Companie doe anie work on the Saboath day or cause or suffer any of their Journeyemen or Apprentices to Worke on the Saboath Daye except it be upon the Queenes Majesties affayres or ells to sett a shoe upon a horse in payne of anie brother Doeinge the Contrarie to pay for a ffyne vi^s viij^d."

THE MIRACLE PLAYS AND MIDSUMMER SHOW

For centuries the City Gilds took part on every public occasion. At times of ceremony or festival they

formed in procession, robed in their gowns, and carried representative banners bearing the Company's Arms, and other emblems.

They staged the Miracle Plays, and were chiefly responsible for the Midsummer Revels.

The Miracle, or Whitsun Plays, twenty-five in number, were first acted about 1328. They took place on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Whitsun Week; hence their title.

They began at the Abbey Gateway, where they were performed before the Abbot; and proceeded to the Cross, where they were acted before the Mayor and Common Council; from there wending their way through the principal streets.

The Plays were performed on a kind of travelling platform on wheels, the lower part acting as a dressing room, and the upper part as the stage. Nine pageants were played on the first day, nine on the second day, and seven on the third. The day's programme was so arranged that the Plays continued in turn, in each of the streets continuously. The Smiths, etc., Company had their pageant on the second day and performed in "The Purification of our Lady."⁶ They had their own stage, or carriage, which, when not in use, they stored in a place under the Walls near to the Goblin, or Dilles Tower, now better known as Pemberton's Parlour, from the fact that John Pemberton, a rope maker (Mayor of the city in 1730), used to sit in it and watch his men at work under the Walls.

⁶ See *Chester Plays*, Vol. I., p. 189, by T. Wright.

The following account for the building of one of these stages for the Smiths' Company is interesting :—

" 1561 Tymber (for the carriage)	8	4
To Carter and men to get it out	.	7 ^{ob} [7½]
Wood to make weeles	3	4
Cartwright making Wheles	7	4
Bords and other tymber	5	0
The Wright making the Carriage and for berrage ⁷	8	5
Nayles	.	. 6
Wrightes setting the wheles	.	. 8
A pound of grey sope for the wheles	.	. 3
Nayles to dresse the Carriage	.	. 3 ^{ob} [3½]
Makyng a fayre paynting and dressynge the pillers gere and a crowne for Mary 3 Curten cowerds [cords]	.	. 3
Pynnes	.	. 3"

We are told that the last time these Plays were performed was in 1574 A.D.⁸

The Midsummer Show or Revels⁹ were in old time held on Midsummer Day, but after the Restoration of Charles II. they were held on the 29th of May.

The Smiths' play was a very popular one and much appreciated by the public, as the Company engaged the services of the singers from the Abbey with accompanying musicians.

⁷ Drink Money.

⁸ *Tudor Period*—Morris.

⁹ For further particulars as to these shows, see *Barber-Surgeons' Company, 1911*—F. Simpson.

In the early accounts we find:—

	£	s.	d.
" 1561 To Sir Jo Jenson for songes	-	-	xii
To the five boys for singing	-	ii	vi
1567 To two Clarkes of the Minster	-	-	viiij
1568 To Mr Rand Barnes	-	iiij	iiij
To Mr Whyte for singinge	-	iiij	-
1569 Minstrels for our pageant	-	iii	iiij
For the Clergy for our songes	-	iiij	ii
To the clarke for the lone of a Cope, an Altar Cloth and Tunicle	-	-	x
1575 For Copes and Clothe	-	-	xij
To John Shawe for lone of a Doctors gowne and a hode for our eldest Doctor	-	-	xij" ¹⁰

The actors were supplied with abundance of refreshments at various intervals.

Canon Morris, in his *Tudor Period*, gives interesting extracts from *Harleian MSS.* of the expenditure in connection with the Play for 1575.

	£	s.	d.
" Spent on the players and other things necessary	-	xii	-
Spent at Tyes to hear 2 playes before the Aldermen to take the best	-	-	xviii
9 men to carry our carrydge and one tressell and 2 that did help me in the morning	-	iii	i½
For the banes and doing at the barrs	-	-	xii
Little God	-	-	xx
Our Marye	-	-	xviii
Our 2 Doctors	-	-	xvi
Copes and Clothe	-	-	xii

¹⁰ *Harleian MSS.*, 2054.

ibid., *Tudor Period*—Morris.

	£	s.	d.
Our 1 st Angell	-	-	vi
Seameon [Simeon]	-	iii	-
1 st Doctor	-	-	xvi
Joseph	-	-	xvi
Second Angell	-	-	vi
Dame An [Anne]	-	-	x"

RULE XVII

"It is fullie agreed upon the same Daye [3rd July, 1592] that everi brother of our Companie shall come with an armed Manne to the Common Hall lane end before the Watch to attend upon the Aldermen and Stewards and the rest of the Brethren in payne of fforfeytinge ii^s vi^d."

In 1637, the charges for the Midsummer Show are:—

	£	s.	d.
" For powder and match	-	ix	-
For a quart of Wine att Dressinge the child	-	-	vi
For keepinge the Banner	-	-	xii
To the Cryer att the barres & the p[ri]soners in the Castle and Northgate	-	-	xviii
For Rybon for the horse & scutchions	-	-	xvii
For 3 men w ^{ch} led the horse and attended the boy	-	iii	vi
for our Musique	-	vi	viii
Spent at Robert Johnsons at the Barres	-	ii	iii
Spent at Edward Ryders fetching the Boy and Horse	-	-	xviii
For our banquet on Midsomer Eve	-	xxi	-

		£	s.	d.
1639	Received of our Alderman Holmes for an ould suit of clothes w th the boy formerlie Ridd in at Midsomer	-	ii	vi
1640	Midsomer Charges			
	P ^d for bootes & Gloves & Ribbon for the boy & horse	-	xi	-
	Spent at Dressinge the childe	-	-	xii
	P ^d for Trunchion & painteinge itt	-	-	xii
	P ^d to the Musick	-	v	vi
	Given att Barrs Castle & North- gate	-	-	xxiii
	Given M ^r Leicesters man of Tabley in gratuity for bringinge obtayn- inge & leadinge the horse	-	v	-
	Given to the two hauce [horse] men that carried the banner and tended the boy	-	ii	-
	Spent at Steward Morris his new house behind the Barrs	-	v	-
	Spent now att John Morris house behind the barrs	-	ii	vii
	Spent at our banquettt att Alder- man Holmes his house Mid- somer Eve	-	xv	iiij
	Paid for Gunpowder	-	xiii	-
	Paid for Match	-	-	vi"

In the Accounts for 1662 is included :—

"Spent when bringing the boy whom [home] in Drinke & tobacco	-	10	-
For bread and cheese for the company & Soldiers	-	10	-
for Drumes and fyve [fife]	-	5	6"

Somewhat similar items are entered year after year until 1670, when it was ordered that the Show

held at Midsummer should be observed on Whit Tuesday, being more convenient, and all those failing in attendance, without reasonable excuse to be allowed by the Mayor, should pay five shillings; and the Company failing to put forth "their boy and horse, to pay five pounds to the City."

The observance of this ancient custom continued until the year 1678 when it was finally abolished by an order of the Corporation.

The Company endeavoured to preserve order at these Shows, and that the members should go in order of precedence.

RULE XXI

TO GO IN DECENT ORDER

"It was ordered the vith of June 1607, by the full and whole Consent of the Companie that everie brother who shall att anie tyme hereafter att anie Midsomer Watch or att theire Departure from anie Meetinge goe out of decent order, but Dulie keepe theire places accordinge to theire Callings & Seignioraties shall forfeit for everie such offence vi^d."

APPRENTICES

March 7, 1606, it was agreed by the Company [Rule 19] that no brother should invite, procure, or tempt any apprentice out of the employer's service with whom he was first bound. Anyone so offending was liable to a fine of Ten Shillings for each offence.

RULE XXII 1611

"It is agreed by the Consent of the Companie the viith Day of Januarie 1611 That everie brother that taketh anie apprentice shall come to inroll him in the

Meetinge house att the next meetinge after upon
forfeite for everie tyme doeinge the contrarie to pay
to our Stewards for the use of our Companie the
some of v^s."

December 6, 1670. It was

"Ordered by the Consent of the whole Company
that noe Brother thereof shall at anie time hereafter
take any person to bee his or theire Apprentice who
att the time of takeing thereof shall bee married or
have infant children on penaltie of Ten Shillings."

May 16, 1657:—

"It is Ordered and Agreed by the whole Company
of Blacksmiths Plummers Pewterers Girdlers &c and
the rest that Michell Hunt Cutler is disfranchessed out
of our Company for making his prentice free of [the]
City when he served him but 5 years free in the City
& the other two when he was a ffallenor [foreigner
or non-freeman] and for seccret venting of the Com-
pany."

"Nov 22, 1769. Spent at the Green Dragon
when Francis Buckley signed a
note to the Company not to take
any Apprentices

o 3 o"

ADMISSION TO THE COMPANY

It is not correct to suppose that the members of the
various Companies all follow the craft by which title
their Company is known; formerly they did do so, or
they could not have protected their trade, or profession,
so perfectly as they appear to have done. To become
a member of any one of these Gilds, or Companies, it
was necessary to have first served an apprenticeship of
at least seven years to a Freeman of the City, although

cases are recorded—years ago—in which some were admitted to a Company without any title whatever, except that of paying a big fee or fine which was immediately divided between those present. In the majority of cases it is, to-day, by heritage in the male line, but under any circumstances a man must take up his Freedom to the City before he can become a member of a Company, or Gild. It is, therefore, not surprising that most of the Chester Companies have not a single member whose occupation is that of the trades mentioned. This also applies to London and other towns. The Smiths, Cutlers, and Plumbers' Company is an exception, as it includes in its membership three plumbers, but no smith nor cutler now belongs to the Company.

July 24th, 1490:—

RULE III

“It is ordered that everie Brother cominge into the Brotherhood of the saydd Companie shall pay for his admittance or entrie such Some or Somes of money as he shalbee assessed to paye by the agreement of the sayed whole companie or the greater parte thereof and in such maner and sorte as they shall agree upon.”

RULE XIV

‘ Item Yt is Ordered and Agreed the xiiith Daye of October 1587 that there shall not anie of our Brethren speake for anie young man that shall come in as a brother into our Companie but everie such man to pay whollie for his brotherhood and all other duties due or belonginge to our Companie in payne of anie brother doinge the Contrarie to pay for the ffyne to the use of our Companie the some of iiii^s iiij^d.”

11th April, 1637. Six new members joined the Company:—

	£	s.	d.
“ Received of Geo Pickmere for his admittance &c	„	Liii	iiij
of Edward Ryder for the like	„	Liiij	iiij
of David Griffith for the like	„	Liiij	iiij
of W ^m Lewis for the like	iiij	vi	viiij
of John Morris for the like	iiij	vi	viiij
of John Gough for the like	iiij	vi	viiij
of Phillipp Jackson Spurrier the one half of his Admittance Money	„	v	„ ”

In the disbursements for the year 1637-8 it is recorded:—

	£	s.	d.
“ March 27 Devyded amongst 50 of our brethren att the admittance of the 6 brethren v ^s a peece	xii	x	o
Item given to Jo Evans of his admittance Money againe	-	xx	-
Item to x Widows of our Companie	-	viiij	-
„ to Christopher Gardner	-	viiij	-
„ to our Clerke	-	ij	-
„ to the poore in the Alms houses	-	-	xij
„ for the Dynner for our Companie when the 6 brethren were admitted	-	xxxij	-
„ for Wyne the same daye	-	iiij	-
„ Spent at bringing home the sixe brethren	-	vij	- ”
“ 1638 April 25. of Phillipp Jackson the remainder of his Admittance Money	-	v	-
1639 13 May It. of William Cronck for his Admittance into our Companie	iiij	vi	viiij

30 th May, 1642	Received of Steven Owen	£	s.	d.
	(beinge a farrier made free by an Assembly and after Admitted to the Company) for his Income and Dynner			xix xviii vi

And in the disbursements for that year we find:—

“30 th May	P ^d and Distributed to 49 breth-			
	ren outt of Steven Owens, the			
	new brothers Income money	xij	v	-”

This heavy charge for Steven Owen's admission to the Company is accounted for by the fact that he was not entitled to become a member. He was not a Freeman of the City, by birth or servitude, but was only admitted by an Order of Assembly, which would be practically the same as being made an honorary freeman at the present time. This does not entitle the recipient to a vote. There is little doubt that Owen Jones had cases like this in mind when he had a clause inserted in his Will,

“That no Increepers or Comers in [the Company] by chance shall [who] have no right priviledges to the Freedom and Franchises of this City shall have any Benefit at all from this my Gift and my will . . .”

There has been some misconception as to what the word “In Creeper” refers to, but the above is quite plain and can only refer to the Freedom, and with it the franchise of the City.

In admitting Steven Owen to the Company the latter was very careful as to the privileges allowed Mr. Owen. A special meeting was held May 30th, 1642, and it was

“Ordered and Agreed by the whole Companie the day before saide by the Consentt of the said Steven

Owen that hee shall make noe scabards nor bringe any into the Citty to make scabards for him but shall take them all of the other Cutlers in Chester if they please to furnish him And that he shall nott worke buy odd workes either in furbringe or mendinge old worke or the like butt permitt the other Cutlers to take the benefit thereof And that he shall nott sell any belts or girdles to hinder the Girdle makers in the same Company nor that he shall meddle with the Gunsmiths trade nor Spurriers trade And further itt is ordered by the said Company and condescended unto by the said Steven Owen that hee shall nott make any free hereafter unlesse itt bee his owne Childe that shall bee borne free nor that hee shall take any apprentice to serve as an Apprentize in the Citty butt some brothers sonne of the same Company under penalty for every tyme offendinge against this Order to the use of the Company the sune of xx^s.

And further Ordered that hee the said Steven Owen p[er]forme all other orders hereafter made or hereafter to be made for the good of the said Company under the penalty of xx^s."

March 4, 1755. One Shilling was paid "for drawing up a Petition" to prevent Samuel Tylston obtaining his Freedom of the City, but we are not told the result.

"July 17 1769 Paid a Dividend of half a Guinea apiece amongst all the Brothers (including Sam^l Bromfield) and the Clerk 7 17 6"

The above item is accounted for by the fact that Samuel Bromfield had that day been admitted to the Company, for which he paid a fee of £8 6s.

"The Company being this Day (Sixth of November. 1769) applied to to admitt Richard Cowdock, William

Page, William Briscoe the Elder, Robert Cowdock, Thomas Brock, John Johnson, William Briscoe the younger, Francis Buckley and Jonathon Presbury, who have lately absented themselves from the Company to bear and Draw again with the Company It is ordered that the said Richard Cowdock, William Page, William Briscoe the Elder, Robert Cowdock, Thomas Brock, John Johnson, William Briscoe the younger, Francis Buckley, and Jonathan Presbury shall be again admitted so to do in Case they shall respectively pay the arrears due from them to the Company at the next Meeting to be held on the Twentieth Day of this Instant November."

At a meeting held 20th November, 1769, the gentlemen above named, with the exception of William Briscoe, junr., appeared and were re-admitted. And at a meeting held December 19th, William Briscoe, junr. was re-admitted on payment of his arrears, amounting to £2 13s.

At a meeting held 19th December, 1769,

"William Davies of the City of Chester, Whitesmith, a Freeman of the said City having applied to this Company to be admitted a Brother or Member thereof and not having a Right thereto either by Birth or Service It is Ordered that the said William Davies shall be admitted a Brother or Member of this Company upon paying the Sum of Fifteen pounds for such his Admission and which sum of £15 he accordingly paid and was that Day admitted a Brother or Member of this Company. The £15 was paid into Steward Yoxall's Hands. Fifteen Shillings apeece was this day Divided amongst Twenty Brothers and the said William Briscoe the younger and William Davies and the Clerk of this Company which in the whole amounts to Seventeen pounds and five shillings for

which sum Mr Steward Yoxall is to have Credit in his Account with the Company. The 15^s apiece belonging to William Page, William Briscoe the Elder, Robert Cowdock, Thomas Brock, and Jonathan Presbury was paid to Steward Yoxall on Account of their Notes which they have given for the arrears Due from them to the Company and was afterwards divided amongst the other Brothers and the Clerk at 4^s 5^d apiece Except W^m Davies who had no share thereof."

The ex-Mayor of the City and the ex-Sheriff, Mr. Holme Burrows and Mr. John Thomas, who were at that time Aldermen of the Company, each took a share of the money.

At a meeting held the 13th day of November, 1780, it was:—

"Ordered That every Person who shall petition for his Admission into this Company and shall not be intitled to such his admission either by Birth or Service as an Apprentice shall for the future pay Five Guineas for his admission And that every person who shall petition for his admission and shall be intitled thereto as a Son of a Brother of this Company shall for the Future pay for his admission Two pounds And that every person who shall petition for such his admission and shall be intitled thereto by Service as an Apprentice shall for the Future pay for such his admission Four Guineas."

During the latter part of the Eighteenth century the Company found that several men were trading in the City who had not become members of the Gild. At a meeting held 15th July, 1782:—

"It was Ordered and agreed that the present Stewards of this Company William Davies and Tho^s Dicas do wait on Tho^s Harrop, Brazier; Henry Green,

Brazier; Will^m Palin, Cutler; William Huntington, Cutler; Rob^t Hughes, White Smith; and John Chesters, Whitesmith; all of this City to have their Respective Answers to know if they or any of them will become Brothers of this Company and they the above nam[e]d Stewards do Receive their Respective Answers from the above named and Make their Report accordingly to this Company

As Witness our Hands

THOMAS BARNES Ald^m

WILL^m DAVIES Steward "

At a meeting held 1st July, 1783, the Stewards reported their interview :—

"We did wait upon or attend [the gentlemen named] to know if they or any of them would become Brothers or Members of this Company And they respectively answered as follows That is to say the said Thomas Harrop and Henry Green severally said that they would not become Brothers or Members of this Company, the said William Palin said that he would consider of it, the said William Huntington said that he had lately begun Business, that he was not free of the City of Chester but that he intended to be a Freeman of the said City and a Brother or Member of this Company on or before the Fifth Day of November next And we do further report that the said Robert Hughes has left off Business and that the said John Chesters hath left the City of Chester and it is said that he is going to reside at Birmingham in the County of Warwick As Witness our Hands

W^m DAVIES

THO^s DICAS "

"Ordered that no further Applications shall be made to the said Thomas Harrop, Henry Green and

William Palin or any of them to become Brothers or Members of this Company And it is also ordered that the said William Huntington may on or before the Fifth Day of November next become a Brother or Member of this Company upon Terms to be fixed upon and settled at a future Meeting of this Company."

At a meeting held 5th November, 1783, it was:—

"Ordered that no further Application shall be made to W^m Huntington to become a Brother or Member of this Company he not having requested to become a Brother or Member since our last Meeting."

July 16, 1792. Robert Alcock was waited upon by the Stewards to see if he would become a Brother of the Company, application having been made to him for the like purpose several years past. He replied "that he would not become a member or brother of the Company 'till he thought proper.'" The Company decided that "If he can force himself into this Company just at the time the money is due from the Will of Owen Jones that they [the members] can oblige him to pay his arrears up from the first application which was in the year 1776."

At a meeting held "19th June, 1797, at Mr Feopells, the Sun, in Northgate Street. Thomas Barnes, Esq. Mayor [and] Alderman [of the Company] John Briscoe & Thomas Dicas Stewards:—"

"Richard Bromfield son of Samuel Bromfield Deceased late one of the Aldermen and a Brother of this Company at this Meeting praying to be Admitted a Brother or Member of this Company. It appearing to this Meeting that by a copy of the Register of Baptisms of the Parish of St. Peter in this City produced and read at this Meeting that the said

Richard Bromfield is not yet Sixteen years of age being Christened or Baptized on the 21st day of November 1783.

“It is Ordered that the said Richard Bromfield be not admitted a Brother or Member of the said Company (on account of his being under twenty one years of age) also that he be not in future Admitted a Brother or Member into this Company untill he attains and arrives at the age of Twenty one years.”

At a meeting held 1st January, 1798, it was:—

“Ordered that W^m Huntington be admitted a Brother and Member of this Company paying a fine of Ten Guineas and also that Robert Alcock be likewise admitted a Brother and Member of this Company paying a fine of Thirteen Guineas—the same being reckoned and calcalated as the old Fine for Admittance of Brothers into the said Company as Sons of Brothers belonging to the Company and the Arrears—that would have been due and payable by and from the said W^m Huntington and Robert Alcock from & since the time they were first applied to to come Brothers and Members of this Company. And they were the same Day sworn Brothers and Members thereof accordingly.”

September 17, 1801. John Mellor was admitted to the Company on payment of £10; £4 19s. 2d. of which was spent in drink, etc., £4 11s. divided between the members, and 9s. 10d. left in the hands of the Stewards.

At a meeting held 16th July, 1811, a letter was read from the Inspector of Stamps:—

“Requested by the Inspector of Stamps That every one admitted a member of the Company must Specify in the Book whether by being Free Born, Servitude, or a Stranger.

The Duty for the stamps for the two former being 20s. for the latter 40s.

William Ody Inspector

1811

WIL^m BELLIS

Steward "

19th July, 1813. It was

"Ordered that Thomas Chesters and Robert Horton be, and are admitted Brothers of this Company and Sworn accordingly and each paid a Fine for his admission the sum of Ten Guineas each on the 24th Day of July 1813. The above named Thomas Chesters served his Apprenticeship to his Father John Chesters, and the above named Robert Horton served his Apprenticeship to the late William Davies, Smith, all of the City of Chester."

"At a meeting held on the 19th Day of July 1813, of the Smiths & Plumbers' Company, held at M^{rs} Trevors in Newgate Street, it was agreed and ordered by the Aldermen & Stewards and the rest of the Brothers assembled that [the undermentioned] be requested to come into the said Company having a lawful claim, and we do require an answer whether you assent or dissent from the same, you paying the usual sum of Admission that is customary.

Apprenticed to William Davies Robert Jones, Smith, Watergate St.

Apprenticed to William Davies Edward Clark, Smith, Old Linen Hall St.

Apprenticed to John Chesters Robert Griffith, Smith, Newgate St.

N.B. The above Notice sent the 19th July 1813, and no attention paid to it, the decision and above Signatures done on the 21st July 1814."

"At a Special Meeting of the Worshipful Company of Smiths, Plumbers, and Cutlers held at the City Arms, Frodsham Street on the 7th day of July 1909:—

It was proposed by Walter S. Washington and Seconded by Joseph H. Chesters That the Fines over 21 years of 2s. 6d. be rescinded and Annual charges of this Company Fee, now be 16s. 8d. and any brother coming into the Company shall pay the amount of the Government stamp £1 os. 1d.

Proposed by C. Jones that the usual fee and fines as paid in past years be strictly adhered to in the future, and Seconded by S. R. Jones.

The Resolution was carried by 6 votes to 5 votes against."

July 8, 1912, "Frederick Peter Powell was duly sworn a member of this Company by servitude & was an Apprentice to W. S. Washington [Plumber, etc.] John Reginald Horton was sworn a member of this Company by Birth."

These are the latest members, up to the present time, July 1913, to be elected to the Company.

The Chester Gilds for some generations past have been composed of male members only. This has not always been the case; women, formerly, also participated in the benefits of these Societies, as is shown by the following entries in the Smiths' etc. books:—

May 10, 1592. It was "ordered that not any of our Brethren or Sisters of our Companie doe anie work on the Saboath day."

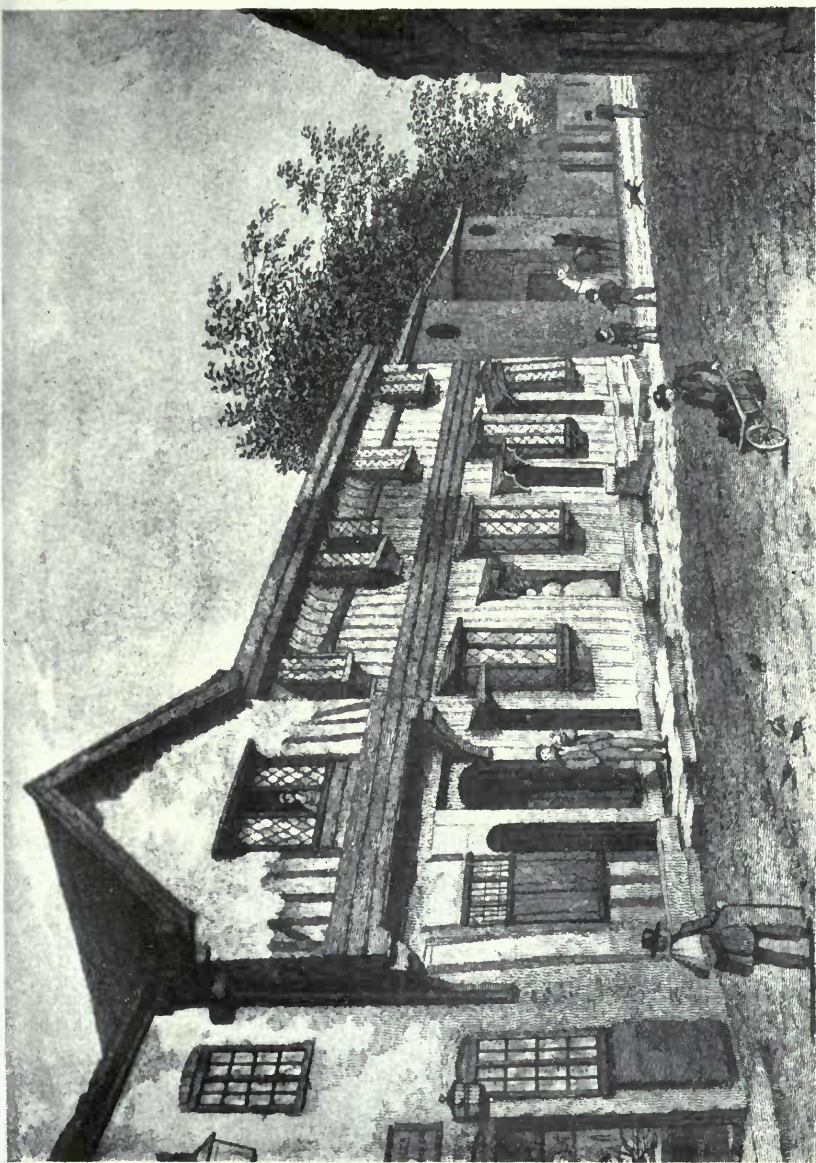
	li.	s.	d.
" 1637 Spent at our Ald[erman's] after			
the buriall of our Sister Evans	-	ij	vj
1641 P[ai]d at the buryall of our Sister			
the Widdow harrison	-	ij	-
1652 P[ai]d to 38 brothers with one			
Sister	iiij	xv	-"

This latter item would not be money derived from Owen Jones' Legacy as that gentleman died in 1659. His Will was dated February 14, 1658.

THE COMPANY'S MEETING HOUSE

The Smiths, Cutlers, and Plumbers' had their meeting house in Commonhall Street (then called Lane). It had originally been built as a chapel and hospital, dedicated to St. Ursula. The license for its foundation as the Chantry and Hospital and Gild of St. Ursula was granted 12th June, 1510. An Agreement dated 6th February, 24 Henry VII. (1508-9) in the Pentice Chartulary set forth the plan adopted. "The executors agree with the Mayor and Citizens, and Margery, the Prioress of St. Mary's Nunnery, to edifie and build at their proper costs, upon a certain voyde ground granted to them for the purpose, six several mansions or tenements under one rove convenient and able for six poor bedesmen." After the Dissolution, part of the building (the chapel) was used as the Common Hall, from which the street derived its name, and the front portion still continued as alms-houses. The chapel could only have been occupied as a Justice Hall for a few years, as St. Nicholas' Chapel, now known as the Music Hall, was transformed into a new Common Hall in 1545, and the Courts were subsequently removed from the old Common Hall to the new one.

The alms-houses, or hospital, were founded by Sir Thomas Smith and others, executors of Roger Smith, deceased, for six poor decayed persons who had been Aldermen, or Common-Councillors, or their widows, and in default of any such, for other poor persons. In 1540, the Master and Wardens of the Gild of St. Ursula gave 30d. per annum to this hospital. About the end



Frank Simpson, Photo.

Alms Houses, Common Hall Street

From an old print

of the 18th century it was occupied by freemen's widows; the endowment was very small, consisting only of a pension of £1 6s. 8d. each, paid by the Corporation. The alms-houses remained, but the chapel, later the Common Hall, appears to have been sold, and the Smiths, Cutlers, and Plumbers' Company subsequently became tenants, doing all repairs, structural and otherwise, of which there are many accounts in the Company's books, such as:—

		li.	s.	d.
" 1636	Payed for a board makeinge the Settle and repayringe the Meet- inge house and making it cleane	-	vi	iiij
1641	P ^d to the slater for slates & mend- inge the two Walls att the goinge up the Staires into the meetinge house	-	iiij	-
	P ^d for half a Loade of Lyme	-	-	vij
	„ for Pitt sand	-	-	ij
	Spent on the Slater in berriage	-	-	ij
	P ^d to the Plastrer for poyntinge the Windows of the Meetinge house beinge a dayes work	-	-	xij
	P ^d for Lyme for him to point withall	-	-	vj
	P ^d for haire	-	-	ij
	Spent on them in Berriage	-	-	ij
	P ^d for a loade of sand	-	-	ij
	„ to the Glasier for mendinge the Windows	-	iiij	-
	P ^d for lyme and Sise & black to dresse the Meetinge house w[i]thall	-	-	xvij
	P ^d to two workmen for Workinge there one day	-	ij	-
1645	P ^d for slates & workmanship mend- inge holes after the Wynde	-	ij	-

Memorand That we have bargained & agreed with John Tottie Slater for tyme to come to mainetaene & keepe the meetinge house & Stayres in repaire and to finde all stufte as often as need Repaires for the sume of five shillings yearely to bee paid him quarterly from our laday Day last And spentt on him makinge the said bargain

o o xii

1648 For pitch rosin and clensing the

Meetinge house

o o 8

1649 P^d John Totty for repareing of the

house next our Meetinge house

o 3 10"

Mr. Totty soon got tired of his contract, for in the accounts for 1651-2 he was paid £1 7s. 10d. for repairing the meeting house.

In 1659 the Company built "a new chamber to the Meeting House at a cost of £10 9s. 1d."

	£	s.	d.
" 1663 P ^d for mendinge the womans chimney & the Meeting house in bricks & clay	o	2	10
1665-6 P ^d for 3 Load of Lime to repaire the meeteing house	o	2	11
„ for 3 Load of slate & sand at 3 ^d per load	o	o	9
„ ffor 1 load of Water	o	o	2
„ ffor a Weather board	o	2	o
„ Edward Griffith for his work in slateing our house	o	13	6
1667 „ for new glass and mending the old	o	3	o
„ for 4 cramps and nailes 14 lb $\frac{3}{4}$ @ 4 ^d lb	o	4	11
„ for a Casement 6 foote all	o	7	6"

And so these structural repairs continue year after year.

Remains of stained glass were still to be seen in the windows so late as 1663.¹¹

It is impossible to say when the Smiths, Cutlers, and Plumbers' first occupied the building, but they met there in 1592; and in 1637 were paying a rental of 15s. a year for it, and continued to do so until 1700. In 1647, the Company paid rent to a Mr. Speed, and from 1665 to 1699 the rent was paid to a Mr. Matthew Anderton.¹² The following year the Company decided to purchase the building. In the disbursements for 1699-1700 we find:—

	£	s.	d.
" April 16 Paid to Mr Listers Steward in Erenest for the purchase of the Meeting House	o	2	6
Paid for Drawing out the Agreement	o	o	6
Spent at the same time	o	2	4
May 2 Paid for measuring the Meeting House	o	1	o
Spent at the Coach & Horses	o	o	6
Spent at Alderman Johnsons	o	o	8
Spent at the Harp & Crown	o	1	6
May 23 Paid to M ^r Cartwright for P[ro]curinge the purchase money	o	2	o
Paid to M ^r Powell for drawing up the Bond	o	2	9
Paid to M ^r Billinge for procuringe the purchase money	o	8	o"

We are not told the name of Mr. Lister's Steward. Probably Mr. Speed and later Mr. Matthew Anderton, were stewards for Mr. Lister's property. There is no

¹¹ Hanshall's *Cheshire*, p. 261; Hemingway's *Chester*, Vol. II., p. 150.

¹² Matthew Anderton, gentleman, who died 7th November, 1693, left 30s. per annum for ever to six poor persons of St. Peter's Parish (see *Church of St. Peter, Chester*—F. Simpson—p. 96).

account in the Company's books as to the amount paid for the premises, which not only consisted of the meeting house, but also four other tenements.

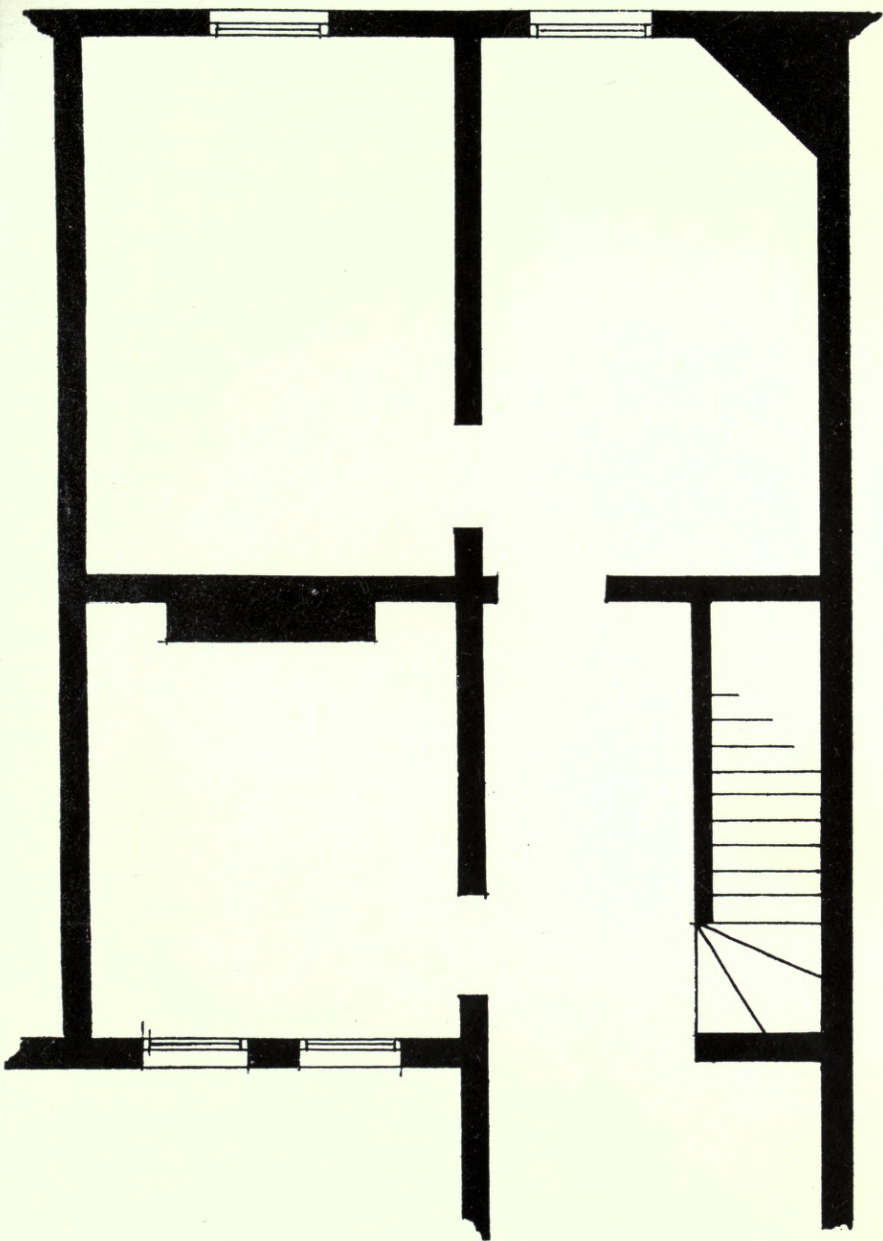
In Vol. II., page 1, of the Company's books is a rough ground plan of the building, and size of the various rooms with the rental of each.

	£	s.	d.
"The Meeting house room tenanted by John Turtle Length of y ^e room from out to out is 24 feet, Breadth of do. 18 feet Rent for do. valued to		2	0 0
Frances house & Parlour: Length is 24 feet Breadth is 16 feet Value	1	10	0
The house in the entry & room over it Length of y ^e Room is 18 foot 3 in Breadth of do. is 18 foot			
The house under. Length is 13 foot Breadth of Do. is 11 foot Rents of both valued to		2	10 0
		6	0 0

Several other Companies held their meetings at the Smiths', etc. Hall, each paying a rental of 4s. per year, but in one or two cases the rent was increased to 6s.

The Clothworkers' were paying a rental to the Smiths' in 1636, the earliest year the disbursements appear in the Company's books, and they continued the tenancy until 1653-4; when they removed to the Phoenix Tower. In 1647, three other Companies, the Taylors', the She[a]rmen's,¹³ and the Bakers', held their meetings at the Smiths' Hall. The Taylors' continued meeting there until 1727, the Shermen until 1656, and the

¹³ Shearmen or Sharmen—Cloth Shearers.



Smiths, Cutlers, and Plumbers' Company
Plan of Meeting House

H. F. Davies, A.R.I.B.A., del.

Bakers' until 1653, when they joined the other Companies at the Phoenix Tower. In 1666, the Linen Drapers' and the Weavers' also held their meetings at the Smiths' Hall; the former continued to do so until 1682, but the latter only met there for one year.

In 1689, the Bricklayers' met there, and continued to do so until 1702.

The Linen Drapers and the Bricklayers originally formed one Company, but the former complaining to the Mayor, it was ordered, 1679, "that the Lynen Drapers and the Bricklayers should be separated as one Company, the latter being troublesome and unserviceable to the former."

These Companies having given up their tenancies of the meeting house, it was in 1771 twice advertised in the local papers "to be let" at a cost of 8s. The Company appear not to have been very successful in getting satisfactory tenants for :—

"At a Meeting held in the Publick Meeting House
30th July 1764"

Present the two Aldermen, Holme Burrowes, Mayor of the City and John Thomas, Sheriff. And the two Stewards, Richard Briscoe, and Richard James;

It was "Ordered that the Stewards be at Liberty to lett the Room in which the Company meet for the best Rent they can get for the same, reserving Leave for the Company to meet at the said Room as often as they shall think proper."

During the year 1765-66, there is an entry :—

"Paid expences at M^r Goostreys upon
making an Agreement for letting the
Meeting House

o 2 6"

Three years later we find the meeting house occupied as a chapel. There having been some difference of opinion relating to points of doctrine among the congregation attending Matthew Henry's Chapel, some of whom were partly Baptists and others partly Methodists, the latter decided to take a meeting house of their own and hold a service more to their liking. They invited a Mr. Jenkins¹⁴ of Wrexham to preach, and in the latter part of 1769 he did so. He writes: ". . . the place provided was the Smiths' Meeting House in Common Hall Lane . . . there were about 200 people hearing me."¹⁵

At a meeting held 13th July, 1778, the Company decided to sell the meeting house. It is recorded that:—

"Upon a Motion this day made by M^r William Davies a Brother of this Society, Requesting that all the Premises situate in Common Hall Lane in this City and which belong to the Aldermen, Stewards, and Company of Smiths, Cutlers, Pewterers, Card-makers and Plummers within the said City Might be sold. Upon due Consideration thereof, It is Ordered by a Majority of the said Company whose names are hereunto subscribed that the same Premises be sold for the best Price or Prices that can or may be had or obtained for the same And it is further ordered that the same Premises be sold by Auction on the Third Day of August next and previous thereto an advertize-ment be Inserted in the two Chester Newspapers for the sale thereof and we do hereby authorize and empower the Aldermen and Stewards of the Company to enter into Articles of Agreement for sale of the said

¹⁴ Joseph Jenkins, M.A, afterwards D.D., was Baptist Minister at Wrexham 1773-94.

¹⁵ *Matthew Henry and His Chapel*—H. D. Roberts—pp. 144-6.

Premises with any Person or Persons that shall or may become the purchaser or purchasers of the same Premises. As Witness our Hands this Thirteenth Day of July 1778.

JOHN THOMAS	}	Aldermen
RICHARD BRISCOE		
CHARLES COWDOCK	}	Stewards"
ROBERT VOXALL		

And five other members of the Company.

In the Stewards' Accounts for 1778, we find:—

" 1778	June 24	Received of John Totty	£	s.	d.
		a years Rent of the lower Room			
		late in the holding of Benjamin			
		Posnett due this day	0	16	0
Do.		Received of Ellis Seville a years			
		Rent of the upper Room due			
		this day	0	16	0
Do.	July 10.	Received of Joseph Turtle			
		for a years Rent of the Meeting			
		House due on the 24 th day of			
		June last	2	0	0
		Received of John Francis in full			
		of all Rent due from him on the			
		24 th Day of June 1777	1	4	0"

In the Disbursements are:—

" July 29	Paid M ^r Cooper and M ^r Boxley			
	for appraising the Meeting			
	House and other premises			
	belonging to the Company and			
	measuring the same	"	7	6
Aug 5	Paid for Advertizeing the Meet-			
	ing House twice to be sold	"	8	0
" 14	Paid for Searching the chest for			
	the Writings belonging to the			
	Company's premises	"	2	0"

The following is a copy of the advertisement in the local papers:—

“On Monday the 17th Day of August inst between the hours of Four and Six O clock in the afternoon of the same day, at the house of M^r Simeon Leet, known by the sign of the Pyed Bull in the Northgate Street in the City of Chester subject to such conditions as shall be then produced. The Inheritance in Fee Simple of several Dwelling houses and Buildings on the South side of Common-Hall-Lane in the said City of Chester, in the holding of John Francis, Ellis Seville, Joseph Turtle, and Smallwood Rutter.

The tenants will shew the premises, and for further particulars inquire of M^r Charles Cowdock in the Northgate Street; or of M^r Robert Yoxall near the Newgate, in Chester.”

Mr. Cowdock and Mr. Yoxall were Stewards of the Company, having been appointed to that office July 13th, 1778.

A meeting of the Company was held on the evening of the Sale, 17th August. A minute in the book states:—

“Whereas at the last Meeting of this Company on the Thirteenth Day of July last past It was ordered that the Buildings and Premises situate in Common-Hall Lane in the City of Chester belonging to this Company should be sold by Auction and that previous thereto an Advertizement should be inserted in the Two Chester Newspapers for the Sale thereof And Whereas an Advertizement hath been inserted in the said Newspapers for the Sale of the said Premises by Auction on this Seventeenth Day of August One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight And

Whereas Mr Samuel Bromfield one of the Brothers or this Company having offered the Sum of One Hundred and Five pounds for the Purchase of the said premises this Company doth think proper to accept thereof And therefore It is Ordered by this Company that the said Buildings and Premises shall be sold and conveyed to the said Samuel Bromfield his Heirs Executors or Administrators for all the Estate and Interest of this Company therein for the said Sum of One Hundred and Five pounds. And the said Samuel Bromfield Doth hereby undertake and agree to pay to the said Company the said Sum of One Hundred and Five pounds for the Purchase of the said Premises accordingly And it is further Ordered that the Aldermen and Stewards of this Company shall immediately enter into such Articles for the Sale and Conveyance of the said Premises to the said Samuel Bromfield for the Sum of One Hundred and Five Pounds at such time and with such Clauses and Agreements to be contained therein as the said Aldermen and Stewards and the said Samuel Bromfield shall think proper and agree upon And further that such Articles when entered into and executed shall be and hereby are ratified and confirmed and shall be carried into execution and performed by this Company so far as the Same relate to and ought to be performed by the Company As Witness our Hands this Seventeenth Day of August 1778

SAM: BROMFIELD

JOHN THOMAS

THO^s BROCKTHO^s BARNESW^m DAVIES

CHARLES COWDOCK

THO^s DICAS

ROBERT VOXALL

JOHN CROSS, Clerk

RICHARD BRISCOE

JAMES BUTLER

EDWARD JONES."

In the Receipts are:—

<p>“August 17 Rec^{ed} of Samuel Bromfield on account of the £105 the purchase Money by him con- tracted to be paid for the Meet- ing House and other premises belonging to the Company in Common Hall Lane in Chester</p>	<p>£ s. d. 5 0 0”</p>
--	--

And in the Disbursements:—

<p>“August 17 Paid at the Pyed Bull at the Meeting about selling the Com- pany's Premises in Common Hall Lane</p>	<p> 0 8 7</p>
---	---

<p>Nov: 5th Received of Mr Samuel Brom- field the Rem[aind]er of the purchase Money by him Con- tracted to be paid for the Meet- ing house and other premises belonging to the Company in Common Hall Lane in Chester</p>	<p> 100 0 0</p>
--	---

<p>Spent at M^r Tapleys at the Rising Sun on receiving the £100 the Remainder of the Consideration of Money from M^r Bromfield</p>	<p> 0 1 0”</p>
--	--

At a meeting of the Company 17th July, 1786,
it was:—

“Ordered that the Agreement heretofore made by
the Company with M^r Sam^l Bromfield one of the
Brothers or Members of this Company for the sale to
him of the premises in Common Hall Lane in the
said City of Chester shall be forthwith carried into
Execution and Completed.

THOMAS BARNES
ROBT VOXALL
W^m DAVIES
RICHARD BRISCOE

SAM: BROMFIELD
ROGER DANSON
CHA^s COWDOCK
JAMES BUTLER.”

It is evident, therefore, that although Mr. Bromfield completed the purchase and had paid the total amount on November 5th, 1778, he was still waiting for the Title Deeds in 1786, nearly eight years afterwards, which Deeds, be it remembered, the Company were "Searching the chest for" August 14th, 1778.

In 1806, the Hall was converted into a dwelling-house by a carpenter named Golding.¹⁶

In 1871, the Municipal Charity Trustees received the sanction of the Charity Commissioners to sell the alms-houses. The late Mr. R. Barker, Solicitor, of Chester, to whom they were conveyed 2nd January, 1872, was the purchaser, and the proceeds were invested in £289 8s. 5d. Consols.

Mr. Barker also bought two other lots of property in the rear of the alms-houses, one comprising three houses and the other one house—the old Common-Hall or Smiths,' etc., Meeting-house.

As the property was in a very decayed state he pulled it down and built, 1873-4, on the site of the alms-houses, the row of red brick cottages we see there to-day. Upon the death of Mr. Barker, the whole of the site, with the buildings thereon, was sold to Mr. Richard Shuttleworth, the present owner.

"THE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA"

In 1778, England was struggling to retain her American Colonies, and was at the same time at war with France, Spain, and Holland. She was not only at war abroad, but was torn with political strife at home. France, for some time, had been preparing to invade

¹⁶ Lysons' *Cheshire*, p. 625.

this country, and now thought it an opportune time to carry out its designs. This combined danger to the nation aroused the old spirit of pride and patriotism once so common to Englishmen, but which, alas, to-day, in this 20th century, appears to be slumbering. Volunteers were being trained to bear arms for the defence of their country, privateers were being fitted out to harass the enemy at sea, and the loyal citizens of Chester were among the most zealous of their fellow countrymen. Not only were they forming a body to fight on land, but they were also fitting out ships at the local ship-yard¹⁷ to attack the enemy at sea. Several vessels were fitted out for this purpose, including the *Empress of Russia*, of twenty-four guns and 120 men; the *Hero*, of sixteen guns and eighty men; and the *Spy*, of ten four-pounders, twelve swivels, and fifty men.

Under these circumstances, we need not be surprised to find the Smiths,' etc., Company investing the purchase money of its meeting house, with other sums collected from the members, in this risky undertaking; were they not "Freemen of Chester," each having taken the oath to defend the King and Queen, the Earl of Chester, the Mayor for the time being, and the City?

¹⁷The Ship-yard occupied the site on which now stand the Gas-works, adjoining the Roodee. A century ago there were several noted ship-building yards here. This industry had been carried on at Chester for many centuries; several vessels of war were built here carrying about twenty-four guns each, and merchant ships have been launched of upwards of five hundred tons burthen.

In Lysons' *Magna Britannia*, published 1810, it is stated: "There are now more ships built at Chester than at Liverpool, they being in great estimation among the merchants of that and other principal sea-ports of England and Scotland as particularly well founded, and in the mariners' phrase, 'Sea-worthy.'" About 1830, these ship-yards were occupied by Messrs. Mulvey & Sons.

In the Disbursements for 1778-9, we find:—

		£	s.	d.
"Sept 29	Paid the Bill at M ^r Pinningtons the Golden Lyon on a Meeting of the Company about the Brigantine Empress of Russia	o	8	7
Oct 26	Spent at M ^r Pinningtons on a Meeting of the Company about the Empress of Russia	o	6	8
27 th	Paid to M ^r Griffies, Timber Merchant the £100 rece[iv]ed from M ^r Bromfield as a subscription for [from] the Company on fitting out the Briggantine the Empress of Russia as a Privateer	100	o	o
	Money on Account of the Empress of Russia	o	2	o
Feb 27	Spent on collecting money on a like account	o	2	o
March 18	Spent in Collecting more money on account of the Empress of Russia	o	2	o
April 12	Spent on collecting more money on the like account	o	2	o"

There is no account in the books as to the total amount the Company invested in the *Empress of Russia*, but this vessel, with the two other privateers, the *Hero*, and the *Spy*, sailed from the port of Chester during the year 1778. The *Empress of Russia*, under the command of Captain Briscoe, captured a small Swedish vessel which she brought up the Dee to Chester amid great rejoicings by the citizens. The carved mast-head was preserved as a memento and retained in the Briscoe family, several of whom were members of the Smiths,' etc., Company. It eventually became the property of a Miss Jocelyn Ffoulkes, who,

in 1889, presented it to the Chester and North Wales Archæological Society, in whose collection it still remains. It is described as follows:—

“CARVED MAST HEAD”

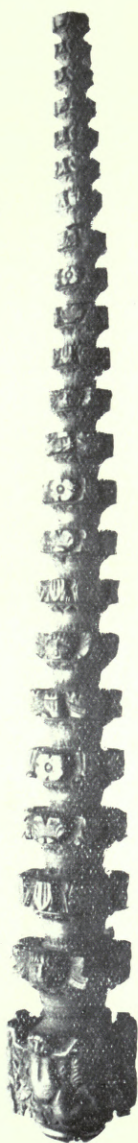
“Carved Masthead from the Swedish vessel captured by William Briscoe Commander of the *Empress of Russia* in 1778. This vessel (the *Empress of Russia*) was fitted out in Chester in 1778 for a private speculation cruise. The only capture she made was that of a small Swedish vessel which was brought into Chester & from which the carved mast-head was preserved as a memento.”

The top is $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, gradually increasing in size towards the bottom, where it is $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter and $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference. It is 23 inches in length. The raised bands are decorated with heads and other ornamentation. At the base are figures somewhat resembling mermaids.

The *Empress of Russia* again sailed down the Dee in quest of prizes, but, unfortunately, was taken by a French Frigate and sent into L'Orient.

Mr. Thomas Griffies to whom the £100 was paid was a prominent Chester Merchant, and had his timber-yard in St. John Street. He was succeeded by Messrs. Thomas and James Dixon (whose mother was a daughter of Mr. Griffies) and they were ultimately succeeded by Mr. Edward Dixon (son of Mr. Thomas Dixon) who sold the business to Messrs. Joseph Musgrave & Co. some few years ago.

In the north-west angle of St. Oswald's, now the South Transept of Chester Cathedral, in the floor is a



Frank Simpson, Photo.

Carved Mast-Head

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white marble stone 2 ft. $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. by 2 ft. 8 in. to the memory of Thomas Griffies, etc. The lettering is now nearly obliterated. Some few years ago the Dean and Chapter kindly allowed Mr. William Rogers (nephew of the late Mr. Edward Dixon, and connected on his mother's side with the Thomas Griffies above-named) to place a new memorial slab of red (Mansfield¹⁸) sandstone 23 in. by $17\frac{3}{8}$ in. in the Pier adjoining, on which is inscribed:—

“ Near this place
Lie the remains of
Ann Parsons
Who died 24th October 1784
Aged 84 years
Also of
Thomas Griffies, Timber Merchant
who died 22nd September 1798
Aged 77 years
And of Martha his wife
(the daughter of Ann Parsons)
who died July 1792
Aged 65 years.”

THE COMPANY'S BANNERS, OR COLOURS

The Colours belonging to this Company are mentioned for the first time in 1575, when the following is recorded in the minutes:—

	£	s.	d.
“ Silk for the banner	„	ij	vij
Fring[e]	„	„	xij
Sowinge it	„	„	vj
Paper and Wyre for same	„	„	ij ^{ob}
Workmanship of same	„	x	ij [”]

¹⁸ The stone from this quarry is very close grained and suitable for polishing. Mr. George Haswell informs me that the Mansfield Corporation has closed the quarry.

The banner when not in use was taken charge of by a member of the Company, for which he was paid one shilling per annum. Entries such as the following occur in the books year after year:—

	£	s.	d.
" 1637 Item for keepinge the Banner	"	"	xij"

In 1640 a new banner was purchased:—

	£	s.	d.
" Pd for a newe Banner	3	06	08"

The Accounts do not state from whom it was purchased or by whom it was painted.

May 30, 1642. 7s. 8d. was paid "for mendinge the Banner & keepinge it."

In 1656 there is an entry

	£	s.	d.
"Given to Alderman Holmes for the Banner	00	10	00"

but it is not stated what the payment was for; it could not have been for a new Colour as the price is too small.

Three years later Raphe Almond was paid eightpence "for Ribbands for the banner," and fourpence was "spent at M^r Holmes when fetching the banner away."

The banner was carried on the Coronation Day of Charles II., and 3s. 6d. was paid "for gloves and ribbons for him that carried the banner."

It is evident that the banner, upon this occasion, received some damage, for we immediately find

	£	s.	d.
" Pd for mendinge the banner and keep- inge to M ^r Holmes	0	3	6"

And the same year, 1662,

" Pd for mendinge the banner to M ^r Johnes	0	5	0"
---	---	---	----

In 1664 the members of the Company subscribed towards the purchase of another new banner:—

	£	s.	
" Paid more towards the banner	"	9	0
Received of Phillipe Brooks for quarteredge and for the banner	"	5	6
Received of Thomas Tylston for the banner	"	2	0
Received by an assessment towards the banner	1	13	6
May 26 Spent with M ^r Holmes to give him the Barridge of the Banner by consent	"	3	0
June 16 Paid M ^r Holmes ffor the newe Banner	3	5	0
Spent in guilding the flower De Luce and the Coller staffe over and above the Bargaine	"	"	10
ffor makeinge the flower De Luce	"	2	0"

It is evident that the Mr. Holmes named would be Randle Holme III., for in the Barber-Surgeons' Accounts for the same year he was paid £4 for "a New Flag."

1668-9. A new box was purchased in which to keep the Colour:—

	£	s.	d.
" Paid for a box and Rowler for the Collor	"	3	0
ffor hinges and hookes	"	1	0"

The following year 2s. was paid "for colloring the banner staff."

Dec. 3, 1665. "The flower de Lux in the Colours" was repaired at a cost of 1s.

May 1, 1707. The Colours were carried to celebrate the Union of England and Scotland.

	"Paid for carrying the Colours this Day being the Union Day betweene the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland	£	s.	d.
		0	1	0
June 14	Paid this Day for Carrying of Colours to Attend his Excellency the Earle of Pembroke, Lt Lievetennt of Ireland			
		0	1	0"

In 1709, it was again decided to have new Colours:—

		£	s.	d.
" March 27	Earnest to Paint the Colours	0	1	0
April 1	paid for silke for the Colours	0	1	0
	Spent at buying the silke	0	1	0
	for Inkle ¹⁹ for the frynge	0	3	6
	Spent at severall tymes about the Colours	0	4	0
	for sewing silke for the ffrynge	0	0	3
	ffor makeinge the ffrynge	0	1	6
	Paid for Banner Pole	0	3	2
	„ for Buckrume for the Colours	0	0	8
	„ for a Box and Rouler for the Colours	0	5	0
May 3	Paid to the Painter for painting the Colours	3	10	0
	Given to the painters wife	0	1	0
	For tasles and Ribbons for the Banner	0	7	1"

In 1772-3 a new banner was purchased:—

"Nov. 12	Paid M ^r Duke for silk for the Colours	£	s.	d.
		1	19	0

¹⁹ Inkle (formerly spelt "linge"), at that period was a kind of crewel or worsted; at the present time it is a kind of broad linen tape.

May 26 (1773)	Paid Charles Crewe for	£	s.	d.
	the Pole for the Colours		2	2
Aug: 25	By cash paid to Edward Orme			
	for painting the Company's			
	Colours	6	6	0"

No doubt this large expenditure for painting the Colour was encouraged by the fact that on the date named Owen Jones' money had been received, out of which, after all expenses had been paid, a balance of £285 5s. was divided among the members.

April 7, 1774. 2s. 3d. was "paid for amending the Colours and silk."

May 20, 1774. An oak box to keep the colour in was purchased at a cost of 6s.

This colour bears on it the Arms of four of the trades forming this Company. Near to the pole are those of the Blacksmiths'. The Arms on a shield are:—Sable a chevron or, between three hammers argent, handle of the second, ducally crowned of the last.

Crest. On a wreath, a mount vert thereon a phoenix with wings overtured gorged and chained in flames.

Below the Arms, in a scroll, is the motto:—

"By Hammer and Hand; all Arts doth stand."

Adjoining, are the Arms of the Cutlers'. These are somewhat similar to the London Company of that name, viz.:—

Gules, three pair of swords, in saltire, argent, pommelled and hilted or, viz.: two pair in chief and one in base.

Crest on a wreath an elephant argent, armed or, bearing a castle or, the trappings and girths argent.

The motto, in a scroll, is:—

“POVR BIVENIR A BONNE FOY.”

In the third space are the Arms of the Shoeing Smiths which are described later on under the heading of the “Smiths’ Silver Badge.” And above these is the Crest of the Pewterers:—

A mount vert, thereon two arms embowed, vested and frilled argent, holding in both hands a pewter dish.

Below the Smiths’ Arms is the motto:—

“IN GOD IS ALL MY TRUST”

which is that of the Plumbers’ Company.

At the extreme end of the banner are the names of the Aldermen, Stewards, and date the banner was made:—

“HOLME BURROWES,	}	Ald:
JOHN THOMAS,		
		1773.
SAM: BROMFIELD,	}	Std:”
WILL: DAVIES,		

The banner does not contain the Arms of the Plumbers’, which Company was incorporated 9, James I. (1612). The Arms of this Company are:—

Or, on a chevron sable, between a cross staff fessewise of the last, inclosed by two plummetts azure all in chief, and a level reversed in base of the second, two soldering-irons in saltire, between a cutting knife on the dexter, and a shave hook on the sinister argent.

Crest. On a wreath a triple fountain or, issuing water proper: on the top an angel of the last, vested argent, ducally crowned and winged of the first, holding in the dexter hand a sword, and in the sinister a pair of scales both or.

The design and colouring of this banner are the same on both sides. It measures 7 feet 4 inches in length, and is 3 feet wide at the part nearest the pole, gradually tapering down to 1 foot 9 inches at the extreme end. The silk of which it is made is a mole colour, surrounded by fringe $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth, in colour blue, white, and gold, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches alternately. Edward Orme, who painted the colour, could have been no ordinary man, for at the time he painted this banner, 1773, he was Sheriff of Chester, Deputy Herald of Arms, Organist of Chester Cathedral (1765-76), and a Past Master (1767) of the Cestrian Lodge of Freemasons. His portrait (in oils), by Delacour, now hangs on the east wall of the Lodge-room at the Freemasons' Hall, Queen Street, Chester. On the back of the picture is a label which gives the date of Orme's death as March 15th, A.D. 1777.

But on the north wall of the North Transept, Chester Cathedral, is a white memorial tablet erected in memory of three Cathedral Organists, one of whom is described as:—

“ Edward Orme
late Organist of this Cathedral
died 25th March 1777.
Aged 61 ”

There is an entry in the Cathedral Register:—

“ Edward Orme, Organist (Gout, aged 61), buried
Mar. 27.”

This entry inclines one to believe the date on the memorial stone to be the correct one, and not that inscribed on the back of the picture.

July 10, 1780. Mr. William Bowcock was paid 7s. for painting the Colour; evidently for re-touching it. And three years later (1783) we find:—

“Paid M ^r William Bowcock for a Javelen	£	s.	d.
Head for the Colours Ornamented with			
a figure of Vulcan in Gold & Silver	o	10	6
Making the plate for Vulcan and a socket			
for the staff	o	2	6
1788 Paid for a leather case for the Iron			
of the top of the Colours	o	1	o”

At the Annual Meeting of the Company held July, 1911, this old banner was presented to the Chester and North Wales Archæological and Historic Society. A minute in the Company's Book states:—

“At the Annual Meeting of the Company of Smiths Cutlers and Plumbers held 10th July 1911 at M^r Sampeys known by the sign of the King's Head, Grosvenor Street. Thomas Williams & Charles W. Chesters, Aldermen, Sam^l Richard Jones & William Catheral, Stewards. The Members expressed an opinion that all Members should remain until the close of the Meeting or obtain permission to leave from the Aldermen. After Dinner M^r Frank Simpson attended as representative of the Chester and North Wales Archæological Society to receive the Company's Banner for safe keeping in the Grosvenor Museum. M^r Walter Washington presented the Banner to M^r Simpson in a few appropriate remarks, and M^r Simpson in accepting it on behalf of the Society as a trust promised that it would be protected in a similar fashion to the Banners already placed and exhibited in the Museum so that in course of time future generations might see some of the old emblems so preciousy guarded in early days by their forefathers, the Freemen of the ancient City of Chester.

In a few interesting remarks Mr Simpson said the Archdeacon had bade him convey the message that he, as chairman of the Archæological Society, and the Committee, appreciated most warmly the kind and thoughtful act of that ancient Company in presenting their old Banner, which would be gladly accepted as a trust and guarded with every care. Mr Simpson then gave the members a sketch of the Company's history, and said that were it not for Societies such as he represented that evening, much of Chester's history—a history excelled by few cities in the kingdom—would have been forgotten. The handing over of that colour was another link of sympathy between the freemen of Chester, its Gilds, or Companies, and the Chester Archæological Society, of the former and the latter of which he had the honour to be a member. A hope was expressed that other City Companies who possessed Banners that were not already in the Grosvenor Museum would be placed there for safe keeping.²⁰ A hearty vote of thanks was passed expressing the Company's deep appreciation to Mr Simpson for the valuable interest he is taking in the History of the City Gilds of Chester."

This banner has been placed between two sheets of glass, framed in oak and hung in the Archæological Room of the Grosvenor Museum. In this way these old historical relics are protected so that future generations may see some of the old emblems which were formerly borne by the City Fathers—the Freemen of this ancient and historical City of Chester—upon all public occasions.

²⁰ June 8, 1913. The "Merchant Taylors' Company" presented its two old banners, and one tippet, to the writer on behalf of the Archæological Society. These will, in due course, be treated in the same way as those already hung in the Museum.

At the Annual Meeting held August 7, 1883:—

“It was proposed by John Horton Jones, and seconded by Charles Chesters, that a new Bannerette Flag be provided by subscription of all members of the Company giving 2s. 6d. or more and that a Committee be formed for the purpose, which was carried.”

There is no account in the Company's Books of the purchase of a Bannerette, and I am informed by the Alderman of the Company that the purchase was not carried out.

THE ARMS, OR CREST, OF THE COMPANY.

The Arms formerly borne by this Company are those already described on the banner as the Blacksmiths'. The art of the Blacksmith not only included what is now understood as general ironwork, but included the making of spurs, or anything to which iron or steel was adapted.

THE SMITHS' SILVER BADGE

This Badge, with the arms it bears, although originally given to the Shoeing Smiths, has since been adopted by the combined Company of Smiths', Cutlers', and Plumbers'. On page 1 of the Company's earliest book, now in its possession, the gift is recorded as follows:—

“Thomas Edyan, Smith to Prince Arthur, beinge att the Castle of Chester in the xiiijth yeare of the Raigne of Henrie the Seaventh,²¹ his father then beinge

²¹ Randle Holme in his *Academy of Armoury* (Roxburghe edition of unpublished MS.) in describing the medal, omits the horse-shoe, and says: “being a gift of Edward the Black Prince to the Farriers for love he beare to his Farrier.” Prince Arthur was the eldest son of Henry VII. He was born in 1486, married to Catherine of Arragon in 1499 (the year after he visited his Earldom of Chester and presented the medal), the Spanish Princess being represented by proxy. In 1501, Catherine arrived: and the ceremonials were again gone through at St. Paul's on the 6th of November. He held his Court at Ludlow, and died April, 1502.

Thomas Henry Alderman,
Walker St Andrew's

Richard Toller's of St Andrew's
Thomas Smith

Thomas Henry Smith, to James Anthony, being all
the profits of Egypt, in the King's name of the
Princes of Egypt to the Smith, his Master, the
Princes King of England, and all the same King's
Princes and the King's King, a crown of
William, of the King's King, and the King's
the Church of the King's King, the King's King's
Horse.

Kinge of England; And att the same tyme Prince Arthur gave unto the sayed Edyan a Crowne of silver guilt, a hammer with horseshoe & Pincers, the Armes of Smiths, to them and their successors fforever."

From the various accounts given of the presentation of this badge, or medal, by Prince Arthur to his smith, one would suppose that Thomas Edyan was his regular, or personal smith, but such was not the case as is proved by the Company's books.

The Prince came to Chester August 4, 1498, and remained here until September 9. He was entertained, as was the custom of the time, with a play; upon this occasion, "The Assumption" (one of the Chester Mystery Plays) was performed in front of the Abbey Gateway. During this visit his horse cast a shoe, the services of a smith were requisitioned, and the head smith of the City, Thomas Edyan, who was Alderman of the Company, performed the work in so satisfactory a manner that the Prince presented him, as head of the Smiths, with the medal still in possession of the Company, in recognition of his services.

Edyan did not confine himself to the making of horse-shoes, for in the City Accounts during the reign of Edward IV. is an item:—

"To Thomas Eden, smith, for making a	£	s.	d.
band of iron and other things neces-			
sary over a stoup in the Butter			
market and for the iron		ij	iiij

These Butter shops were situated on the north side of Eastgate Street, near the Cross.

In a well known and valuable History of Chester, it is stated that when the medal was presented, it had a

thin silver chain attached, but such was not the case. There was nothing at all attached to it. We find in the Company's books many accounts of ribbon being bought for the medal, such as :—

		£	s.	d.
" 1569	A rybbon for our Scotchen	"	"	iiij
1642	P ^d for Ribbon for horse & men and to hange the badge & pistol in	"	iiij	"
1656	For 1 yard $\frac{1}{2}$ of blew ribon for the badge	"	"	8
1668	June 23. p ^d for a Silver chaine for the badge	0	3	0"

The Silver badge, which at one time has been gilt, is $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, and weighs 4 ounces 8 penny-weights; attached to it is a silver chain of the old-fashioned cable pattern, 39 inches in length. On the back of the badge is engraved :—

" Presented to the
Smiths Cutlers & Plumbers Co
by Prince Arthur
Son of King Henry 7th
1499."

This inscription was not engraved on the badge until 1890, for at the Annual Meeting held at the Golden Lion, Foregate Street, 30th June, 1890, "The Steward was authorized to have the inscription engraved upon the medal." This was done so as to safe-guard this historic emblem.

The medal, or badge, had for many years been worn at the annual meeting by Mr. Thomas Williams, one of the oldest members of the Company, and for some considerable time an Alderman of the Company. Owing to age and circumstances, he was granted a pension,



Frank Simpson, Photo.

The Silver Badge

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Frank Simpson, Photo.

Javelin Head for The Colour

(See page 78)

Copyright

and, therefore, could not remain in that honoured position. At the annual meeting held July, 8, 1912, it was decided that

“Owing to the retirement of Alderman Thomas Williams, on receiving a pension from the Trustees, that he should be made an Honorary Alderman and should wear the medal for the remainder of his life.”

All members of this Company, young and old, are eager to have the honour of wearing this medal on festive occasions. One can imagine the old Alderman taking the badge from around his neck, and laying it on the table for, as he supposed, the last time, and his joy when the above resolution was carried. The writer congratulates the members on their generosity, which should be a lesson to those who come after, to respect past services and old age.

The Company paid for “Armorial Bearings,” evidently on the Colours, for we find :—

		£	s.	d.
“July 22, 1789	Paid the License of Colours	1	1	0
July 25, 1800	Certificate for Colours	1	1	0
July 1802	P ^d for Armorial Duty	„	7	10½
1803	„ for Armorial Duty	„	10	0”

THE COMPANY'S SEAL

Each of the City Companies had a seal, but most of them, including that of the Smiths', etc., Company, are lost.

The last time a seal is mentioned in this Company's books was on June 6, 1757, when it was “ordered that the Seal of the Company be affixed to the Instrument,” etc.

THE HORSE RACES

The Company each year subscribed towards the Races:—

	£	s.	d.
" 1661 Given towards the plate on St Georges Day	-	8	-
1699 Given towards the New plate	-	10	-
1701 Given towards the Gild [? Gold] plate	-	10	-
1703 Given towards the Hunters plate	-	10	-
1758 Given towards the City plate	-	10	-'

The subscription towards the Hunters' Plate ceased in 1704 as did that from the Barber-Surgeons' Company, but the subscription to St. George's Plate continued.

The following recommendation was made by the Mayor to each of the City Companies, February, 1713:—

"Whereas the R^t Worshipp[ful]l the Mayor and the Aldermen and Co^mon Counsell of the City of Chester aforesaid in Co^mon Counsell Assembled on ffriday the nineteenth day of ffebruary in the year of our Lord one Thousand seaven hundred & thirteen nowe pleases to order that it should bee recommended by the Mayor and Justices of the peace of the said City to the severall Incorporated Companies in this City that they will oblige themselves under their Coomⁿ Seal to contribute such yearly sums towards a piece of Plate to bee run for on the Roodee on St. George's Day yearly for ever unless the same happen to bee Saturday or Sunday and then on Monday following as M^r Mayor and the said Justices of the Pease or any five of them whereof the Mayor to be one shall think reasonable not being lesse than they have usually contributed for the greatest part of twenty years last past And that upon their doeing so then

the Mayor and Citizens of the said City would oblige themselves by their Comon Seal to pay Ten pounds per annum out of the Treasury of the said City towards the said plate yearly for ever Now upon consideration thereof it is hereby ordered by the said Aldermen Stewards and Companie of Smiths Cutlers Pewterers Plumbers Cardmakers and Spurriers within the said City that they and their successors in consideration of the promises shall and will pay and allow to the Treasurers of the said City for the time being the sume of Tenn shillings yearly and every year for ever the sume to be paid in the Inner Pentice of the said City on the first Saturday in the moneth of Aprill Yearly for ever and to be applyed towards A piece of Plate to be runn for on the Roodee on St. George's Day²² yearly for ever according to Antient Custome unlesse it bee on Saturday or Sunday and then to bee run for on the Monday following And it is further ordered that the Ald[er]men and Stewards of the said Company shall putt the Comon Seal of the said Company or such Seal as they shall think fit to be used as the Comon Seal of the said Company to such Instrument as shall bee reasonably divided to which the Mayor and Citizens of the said City shall bee parties for obligeing the said Ald[er]men Stewards and Company & their successors for ever to contribute the said yearly sum of Tenn Shillings towards the said plate to be runn for on the Roodee yearly for ever as aforesaid the Mayor and Citizens of the said City contributing the said yearly sume of Tenn pounds thereunto aforesaid."

The subscription towards the Gild [?Gold] Plate ceased in 1703, but that towards the City Plate or St. George's Plate—which appear to be one and the same—continued until 1808.

²² 23rd April.

CIVIC CONNECTION

The City Gilds took part in all functions and festivals. They always accompanied the Mayor to church; any of the brethren omitting to do so were liable to be fined.

There are many entries somewhat similar to the following:—

“ 1660	Spent in bringinge M ^r Maior to church the 15 th of March beinge thanksgivinge Day ²⁸	£	s.	d.
		o	14	o
1686	Dec 11. Spent in waiting on M ^r Maior when Judg[e] Lutwich came to Chester	o	7	6”

“ Tertio Die July 1721

Decided and Agreed upon by the unanimous Consent of this Company that from henceforth upon every Publick Day whereon this Companie shall attend or wait on M^r Mayor there shall not bee above fifteen shillings spent by this Company upon such Publick Day And at the bringing home of every newe Brother hereafter to bee admitted by this Companie there shall bee spent the like sume of fifteen shillings and noe more and upon Election Daye it is further ordered that the charges and expence thereof is left to ye descretion of the two Aldermen of this Companie.”

There are several entries in the Companies' Accounts of plate being presented to the Mayor and Sheriff, but so far as this Company is concerned, the recipients have always been members of the Company.

“ Aug: 7	1707 Due to Alderman Coke upon account of plate presented Brother Sawyer [Sayer] Sherriffe of this City	£	s.	d.
		1	o	o

²⁸ Restoration of the Monarchy—Charles II.

COMPANIES OF CHESTER

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1716	June 7 th	P ^d towards enlarging	£	s.	d.
		M ^r Sheriffe Brocks ²⁴ piece of			
		plate the Companie presented			
		him with			
			1	16	0
1731-2		P ^d towards the plate presented			
		to Alderman Brock when Mayor			
		of Chester	4	0	0
		P ^d for Engraving the plate pre-			
		sented to Alderman Brock when			
		Mayor			
			„	5	0
1738-9		P ^d M ^r Joyce for engraving the			
		Plate given to Alderman Broster			
		when one of the Sheriffs of the			
		City of Chester ²⁵			
			„	2	6
		P ^d for Warning the Company when			
		Ald: Broster treated them			
			„	1	0
		Given to Alderman Brosters ser-			
		vants when he Treated the			
		Company			
			„	7	6

Several members of this Company have had the honour of being chief citizen, or Mayor, of the City, and others that of being Sheriff:—

1659	John Johnson,	Mayor
1684	John Johnson,	Sheriff
1706	Francis Sayer,	Sheriff
1714	Francis Sayer,	Mayor

²⁴ Mr. Thomas Brock was Sheriff in 1715-16 and Mayor of the City 1729-30. He signs his name repeatedly in the Company's books as "Brock." Vol. II. bears on the cover a leather label on which is stamped, in gilt lettering, the names of the Aldermen and Stewards; here we again find "Brock." In the Freeman's Rolls we find "Thomas Brock, pewterer, son of Philip Brock of Chester Pewterer." He took up his freedom October 14, 1697.

The list of Mayors painted on the panelling in No. 1 Committee Room, Town Hall, Chester, gives the name as Brooke, and the error is repeated in several histories of the City.

²⁵ Alderman Thomas Broster was one of the Sheriffs 1737-8.

1715	Thomas Brock,	Sheriff
1729	Thomas Brock,	Mayor
1737	Thomas Broster,	Sheriff
1750	Holme Burrowes,	Sheriff
1763	Holme Burrowes,	Mayor
„	John Thomas,	Sheriff
1796	Thomas Barnes,	Mayor

The Freemen were staunch Royalists, as was proved during the Siege of Chester, when many of them fell whilst defending the City in the King's cause.

The Aldermen of the Company when taking the oath of office swear to be "just and true unto the King and Queen of England, their Heires and successors"; and the whole of the brethren are equally loyal. This is proved by the fact that upon one occasion, whilst the Company were drinking the health of "Our Most Gracious Queen," a member "refused to uncover"; when he was immediately expelled from the meeting for disloyalty. So incensed were his brethren at this member's action, a special meeting was held and he was informed "that unless you bear and draw the same as the rest of us you will be expelled from the Company without further notice."

There are many entries in the Company's books such as the following:—

		£	s.	d.
" 1637	27 th March. Spent at our Ald [ermans] on the King's Holiday		iiij	iiij
1642	P ^d and Spent at Alderman Balls house the Day his Majesty was first to come into this Cittie being the 23 rd of September		„	iiij iiij
	P ^d and Spent when his Ma[jes]ty came into this Citty when wee Wayted soe long of his Comeinge		- viij	-"

On Friday, September 23, Charles I., with a numerous train of nobility, etc., arrived in the City. The Sheriffs, Sheriffs' Peers, and Common Council, robed in their gowns and mounted on horses, received his Majesty at Spital, Boughton. The City Companies with their banners and regalia were lined up along the north side of Eastgate Street, and the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, in their official robes, occupied the south side, where a platform had been erected for their use. Upon the King's arrival, the Recorder read an address, and the Mayor delivered the City Sword to the King, who graciously returned it. The procession was then re-formed, the Mayor carrying the sword before the King to the Pentice, where his Majesty and Suite were royally entertained. A gift of £200 was presented to the King, and £100 to the Prince. The King during his visit lodged at the Episcopal Palace, and left for Wrexham, by way of the Old Dee Bridge, on September 28th, the Mayor and Corporation accompanying him to the City boundary.

" 1644	Spent at our Alderman Meacocks house the 9 th of March, attendinge upon Prince Ruperts ²⁶ cominge	£	s.	d.
	Given to the Macebearer for his Paines in the same business	-	iiij	-
1661	Paid for gloves and Ribbons on the Coronation Day ²⁷ [Charles II.] and for him that carried the banner			
			3	5
1663	Spent on Coronaçon Day in Drink & tobacco		9	6

²⁶ 6 Jan., 1644. The King (Charles I.) constituted Prince Rupert Captain-General of the counties of Chester, Lancaster, Worcester, Salop, and the six northern counties of Wales. *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*, Vol. XLIX. p. 40.

²⁷ April 23rd, 1661.

1690	Spent when the King ²⁸ came to Chester [June 8]	„	2	0
1697	Spent at Alderman Bradshaws			
April 2	being the Kings Coronation	„	19	0
	Nov: 23. Spent upon the Thanksgiving Day ²⁹	„	5	0
	Spent at Alderman Bradshaw's	I	7	0
1717	Aug. 1. Spent at the Plume of Feathers being the day of his Ma[jes]ties [George I.] Accession to the Throne ³⁰	„	17	6
1727	Spent when his Ma[jes]tye King George the Second was Proclaymed at Chester King of Great Britain etc.	„	10	0
	Spent Warning the Company to attend the Proclamation	„	1	0
1760	Nov: 1. Spent when his Majesty King George the Third was Proclaimed at Chester King of Great Britain, etc. ³¹	„	4	6"

OWEN JONES' BEQUEST

Owen Jones, the greatest benefactor the City Gilds have ever had, bequeathed a small estate at Minera to the poor of the various Companies of the City of Chester. The Will is dated February 14th, 1658.³²

October 8, 1677, the Smiths', etc. Company procured "2 Coppys of Owen's Will" for which it paid 2s. 4d. March 29, 1732, the Company again purchased a

²⁸ William III. when on his way to Ireland.

²⁹ This probably alludes to the Treaty of Ryswick, signed Sept. 11.

³⁰ August 1, 1714.

³¹ George III. succeeded to the throne 25 October, 1760.

³² For Copy of Will see *Barber-Surgeons' Company*, p. 46, F. Simpson, 1911.

copy for which they paid 5s., and entered the same in the Company's book.

In 1743, the income from this estate was only £16 7s. 4d., which, at a later period, increased to £40, but owing to the discovery of lead under the estate, it was let on lease to a Company.

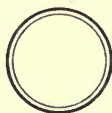
At a meeting held the 6th day of June, 1757,

“M^r Richard Brock, M^r Holme Burrows Aldermen
John Thomas, James Butler Stewards

Ordered that the Seal of the said Company shall be affixed to the Instrument in Writing whereof a true Copy is hereunder written.

‘Know All men by these Presents That We the Majority of the Worshipfull the Aldermen Stewards and Company of Smiths Cutlers Pewterers Card-makers and Plummers within the City of Chester at a Meeting of the said Company legally warned for that Purpose do hereby authorize and impower and give our Consent to and agree with the Mayor and Sheriffs of the said City for the time being as far as we have any Right Tythe or Interest that they the said Mayor and Sheriffs in Conjunction with the Aldermen and Stewards of the said Company and of other the Company's within the said City may by Demise Lease or other proper Instrument in Writing grant and Demise the Lands at Minera (which were left by the Will of Owen Jones for the Benefit of the several Companys in the said City) or any part or parts thereof as to them shall seem meet to Thomas Slaughter Esquire Doctor Philip Fernyhough and M^r Richard Richardson all of the same City for the Term of Thirty one years With Liberty Lycense and Authority to sink for get and raise Lead Ore and all other kinds of Ores and Mineralls therein and the Same to take carry away and dispose of to their own use and Benefit On Condi-

tion that there be reserved and made payable by such Demise Lease or other Instrument as much or more yearly Farm or Rent for the said Lands than is now paid for the same And also a Farm or Rent to the Mayor and Sheriffs for the Time being of Twenty Five Shillings for every Ton of Lead Ore One Eighth part of all Copper Ore and Twelve Shillings and Six Pence for every Ton of Coke and Calamine that shall be found or got on in or under any part of the said Premises with all proper Covenants to be contained in such Demise or Lease And that the Money arising from the Rent or Farm of the said Ores shall be placed out at Interest and the Interest Produce and Profitts arising therefrom shall be applied to the same Uses and Purposes as the present Rents of the said Premises are directed by the will of the said Owen Jones to be applyed And we the said Aldermen Stewards and Company of Smiths Cutlers Pewterers Cardmakers and Plummers do promise to do any other Act which shall be necessary for the more effectual making a good Tythe to the said Thomas Slaughter Doctor Philip Fernyhough and Richard Richardson to sink for get and raise such Ore and to take carry away and Dispose thereof as aforesaid And we do direct that this our Consent be entered in our Company's Book of Rules and Orders and also filed in the Pentice Office of the said City or deposited and kept amongst the Records of the said City for the Preservation thereof as to the said Mayor and Sheriffs shall seem meet In Witness whereof we have hereunto affixed and sett the Seal of our said Company this Sixth Day of June in the Yeare of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Seven with the Seal of our Company in the presence of us William Page William Briscoe.'"



Sealed

April 27, 1772. It was ordered:—

“That Thomas Brock Esq, shall be continued Agent in putting out the Money at Interest arising and which hath arisen from the Mines in the Lands devised by the Will of M^r Owen Jones for the Benefit of the Company in this City upon such Security as he shall from time to time think most advisable . . .”

Some time between July and 12th August, 1773, £301 15s. 6d. was received from the Mayor and Sheriffs of the City under the Will of Owen Jones.

About this time (1773) many were admitted into the Companies through favour, for the sole purpose of partaking of the Bequest, and others were kept out by the demand of arbitrary fees; although many well-to-do citizens partook of the distribution, they gave receipts for their shares describing themselves “poor brothers.”

The affairs of this legacy were carried on in this manner until the year 1803, when an information was filed in the Court of Chancery against the Mayor and others. In 1808 an Order was confirmed by the said Court, that no poor brother should receive more than £40 in one year; and when there was not in the Company first in rotation a sufficient number of poor brethren to exhaust the whole income, then the poor in the Companies succeeding next in rotation should be relieved and so on from year to year.

	£	s.	d.
“August 1782, Spent at Benj[ami]n Saunders’s about the Money arising from Owen Jones’s Will and for the Securitys to be delivered to the Mayor and Sheriffs			
		0	11 0”

“13th January, 1798

This Day Owen Jones Legacy which became due on the 5th Day of July now last past to this Company was

after a great many applications to the Mayor Sheriffs and Town Clerk and amounted to the sum of £407 1s. 10d. and disposed as under:—

THOMAS BARNES ESQ Mayor

MR FRANCIS WOOD } Sheriffs
MR JOHN BAKEWELL }

MR GEORGE WHITLEY Town Clerk

	£	s.	d.
Thomas Barnes Esq Ald ^m	19	10	0
M ^r Thomas Jones Ald ^m	19	10	0
M ^r Thomas Dicas	19	10	0
M ^r Samuel Barnes	19	10	0
M ^r James Butler	19	10	0
M ^r Edward Jones	19	10	0
M ^r Thomas Totty	19	10	0
M ^r John Butler	19	10	0
M ^r John Chesters	19	10	0
M ^r John Briscoe	19	10	0
M ^r W ^m Hassall	19	10	0
M ^r Tho ^s Barnes Jun ^r	19	10	0
M ^r W ^m Davies	19	10	0
M ^r James Butler Jun ^r	19	10	0
M ^{rs} Yoxall wife of late M ^r Benj ^m Yoxall dead	19	10	0
M ^r Benj Barnes	19	10	0
M ^r William Billin	19	10	0
M ^r W ^m Huntington	19	10	0
M ^r Robert Allcock	19	10	0
A Present to M ^r Richard Bromfield	9	0	0
For like to Widow Dawson	1	1	0
Disbursments as on the other side of this leaf	26	10	10
	407	1	10
Balance in Steward Dicas's hands from last years accounts		2	6
	407	4	4

Disbursements:—

Paid at several Meetings of the Company attending on the Mayor Sheriffs and Town Clerk to receive Owen Jones Legacy Divide apportions settle the same among the Brothers & other Expences according to a Bill this day produced and allowed	14	7	1
Paid 19 Brothers £19 10 ^s each of said Owen Jones Legacy whose particular names are wrote on the other side of this leaf	370	10	0
Gave M ^r Richard Bromfield a son of the late Ald Samuel Bromfield a present being part of the said Legacy	9	0	0
Gave Roger Dawson's Widow	1	1	0
Balance of Account due from the Aldermen and Stewards	6	14	3
Dinner Expenses and carrying the Colours	5	12	0
	<u>£407</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4"</u>

It will be noticed that although this legacy was to be divided between the "poor brethren," Mr. Thomas Barnes (the Mayor) and his son participated in it to the extent of £37.

In 1864, under the orders of the Commissioners, some outlying land at Bwlch Gwyn, etc., was sold. The proceeds of the sale, combined with the royalties, realized £22,092 5s. 11d., of which £10,092 5s. 11d. was invested in Consols, £10,000 loaned to the Corporation, and £2,000 paid for a freehold shop at the

Eastgate, now taken down, and rebuilt as the Grosvenor Club in 1884.

Land which formerly realized 5s. an acre now sold for £60 to £70 an acre.

Although the estate now had a diminished area, it was so improved that it still, in 1875, brought in a rental of £116 3s. 5d. In 1870, the royalties amounted to no less a sum than £1,840 7s. 6d. So valuable had the estate now become, it was thought the time had arrived when some new Scheme should be arranged. The Trustees applied to the Charity Commissioners, who advised them to confer with the Companies. Eventually, a new Scheme was formed, and the amount to be distributed each year in grants was limited to £400, a far greater sum than Owen Jones, when making the bequest, could possibly have anticipated.

In the new Scheme a sum of £2,000 was devoted to the education of sons of those brethren who were entitled to participate in the benefits of Owen Jones' bequest. By this means the sons of many Gilds-men are receiving a first-class education, which otherwise they would have been unable to obtain.

At a Meeting held 30th June, 1890, it was

“decided that C. Jones be the representative of the Company on the Joint Committee appointed to consider the scheme from the Charity Commissioners.”

At the Annual Meeting held July 8, 1912, Mr. W. S. Washington was elected Secretary to the Company and its representative on the City Gilds' Committee.

THE CITY WAITS

The Mayor had four Waits, or Musicians, to play before him on public occasions; they each received ten

shillings a year, and new liveries every three years. They also had liberty to solicit gifts at Christmas time and to take other engagements. They were regularly employed by one or other of the City Gilds:—

	£	s.	d.
" 1676. Jan 8. P ^d to the Waits	0	1	6"

WALKING THE BOUNDARIES

This Company regularly paraded the boundaries of the City, for instance:—

	£	s.	d.
" 1707 Sept 24 Spent at the Rideing of the Bounds of the City	0	12	6
1715 Spent att Rydeing the boundaries	0	12	0
1736 Nov: 5 Spent upon Acc ^t of Riding the boundaries of the City and fore horse-men	1	8	0
1743 Sept 2 Spent at riding the boun- daries of the City	0	18	1
Paid for horse hire on that occasion	0	6	0
1757 Sept 30 th Spent at M ^r Birds on Riding the Boundarys of the City	0	13	6
Paid for Hire of the Ald ^{ns} & Stewards Horses	0	6	0"

They were ridden for the last time in 1765.

THE CURFEW BELL

The Company regularly subscribed to the cost of ringing this bell:—

	s.	d.
" 1637 Paid to the Bobell	iiij	iiij"

A similar entry appears each year, except that it is variously written "Boebell," "Boobell," and "Bowbell," until 1696, when it is called the "Great Bell." This continues until 1741, when it is called the "nine-o'clock

bell." Upon two occasions, 1717 and 1724, it is differently worded:—

	s.	d.
"Paid the Sexton of the Great Church for		
Ringing the Bell there	3	4
Given to the Sexton of St Werburghs for		
ringing y ^e Great Bell	3	4"

And so these entries continue year after year until 1765, when they cease.

THE CHESTER AND NANTWICH CANAL

An Act for making this Canal passed the House of Lords, Wednesday, March 16th, 1772. So infatuated were the people with the idea, many sold whatever they possibly could to purchase shares in this new undertaking, which, it was said, would bring a fortune to the shareholders.

The City Gilds were not one whit behind; meetings were called to consider the question of investment.

The Smiths,' etc., Company, April 24, paid two shillings, the cost of "Warning the Company on account of the New Canal Navigation twice." The first meeting was held April 27 (1772), when it was ordered

"That the sum of Two Thousand Pounds spent of the said money [Owen Jones'] shall be subscribed towards making a navigable canal between the City of Chester and the Town[s] of Middlewich and Nantwich in the County of Chester if it can be done."

Two days later, April 29, another meeting was held, when it was

"Ordered that the Aldermen and Stewards do in Behalf of Our Company authorize and desire under their hands and the Seal of this Company the Mayor and Sheriffs of this City (As Trustees of the Money

received and to be received from the Rents and profits of the Lands and Mines heretofore of Owen Jones and Settled for the Benefit of the Several Incorporated Companies of this City) to subscribe the Sum of Two Thousand pounds as Part of the Trust Money's in and towards the Capital Stock for making a navigable Canal from this City to Middlewich and Nantwich by Virtue of an Act of Parliament lately obtained And that the said Mayor and Sheriffs and their Successors as Such Trustees Do pay the said Sum of Two Thousand Pounds in Such Manner and by such Proportions as shall be necessary according to the Directions of the said Act to remain as so much Stock at Interest in Trust for the said Several Companies And the Interest to be Yearly applied to the Use of the said Severall Companies in their usual rotation and Succession."

On Monday, May 4, 1772, at 11 a.m., the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors with the regalia and the Militia band, preceded by the engineers engaged in the undertaking, twenty-one workmen, the subscribers, and the City Gilds with their colours, went in grand procession from the Pentice, through the Watergate, to a field in the quarry near the Water Tower, and there the Mayor cut the first sod; twenty-one guns fired three rounds from the Cop, the Tower, and the Walls, and the bells in the City churches were rung. The evening concluded with an entertainment given by the Mayor and Corporation to the citizens on the joyful event.⁸³

In the Corporation Accounts we find :—

	£	s.	d.
" 1772. May 18. To a gratuity by M ^r			
Mayor's order on his cutting			
the first sod of ye Canal	5	5	0"

⁸³ *The Walls of Chester*—F. Simpson.

In the agreement for the making of this Canal, the contractor estimated for the cutting through a long stretch of rock, but whilst the work was in progress found he was on the line of the old Roman fosse; instead of extensive excavation of solid rock he had only to clear out the accumulation of earth and rubbish, thus enabling him to make a considerably larger profit than he could possibly have expected.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1774, a large barge, seventy feet long, fourteen feet wide, and of seventy tons burthen, was launched near Cow Lane Bridge, and proceeded through various bridges and locks to Christleton.

The communication between the Canal and the River Dee, near the Water Tower, was opened on September 4th, 1776, and the first barge passed through it on December 11th of that year. This waterway was called "The Chester and Nantwich Canal"; it was intended to be a means of communication between Chester and the last named town; it stopped short, however, a mile on this side of Nantwich. The Canal was completed at a cost of £80,000, and was opened on August 6th, 1779. Although so much money was expended on the undertaking, shares so depreciated that, at one time, they were sold for less than one per cent. of their original value. So many calls were made on the original subscribers that the City Gilds declined to meet them, and eventually the £2,000 was lost.

EXTRACTS FROM ACCOUNTS

	£	s.	d.
" 1637 Given to the poore in the Alms Houses			xij
Given to the ould Smith by consent of our Companie			xij

COMPANIES OF CHESTER

101

		£	s.	d.
	Spent in taking up a stranger w th sould Iron-ware	-	-	iiij
1638	Given to 2 poore Journeymen that could gett noe work	-	-	xij
	Given to our Clerke his years wages	-	v	-
1639	Spent at an overplus on St. Loys ⁸⁴ night [Dec. 1]	-	v	viiij
1640	Received of twelve of our brethren viiij ^d a piece for gunpowder	-	viiij	-
	Spent at our Aldermans the 5 th of November	o	3	o
1641	Given to the poor people under the meetinge house after our meetinge the vii th of June	-	-	vj
	Paid for a bridle for the horse	-	-	xviiij
1642	„ for Candlelight	-	-	iiij
	„ for a New Carpet and mak- ing it	„	iv	iiij
1644	Received of the Schoolmaster in person for halfe a years rent	-	viiij	-
	Given to Henry Aston a maymed souldier by Consent of some of our brethren the 15 th of ffebr[uary]	-	-	xij
	Spent paying the said Meetinge house Rent, itt beinge Denied by the landlord upon some Distaste & Spent to make all well again	-	-	xij
1645	Paid to the Gaurd at the Northgate	-	-	vj
1647	Paid for a quart of Sack & quart of Wine given to Ald: Holmes	-	2	4

⁸⁴ St. Loy was the patron saint of Smiths; his symbol being a crozier and hammer.

		£	s.	d.
1653	Given the Mace bearer	-	2	6
	„ to the Maiors Porter	„	„	4
1657	„ to Randle Richard the Macebearer	„	2	8
1659	Spent at Ald: Hayes to make the Company Drinke in the Streete	„	„	4
	Spent at Ald: Hawkshaws upon Thanksgiving Day	1	0	0
1660	Paid for a Pottle of Sack to visit Sir Thomas Smith	„	4	8
1662	Paid at John Bradshaws the day the Duke of Ormand came to town	„	7	6
1663	For Wine to the Recorder & spent	„	1	10
	„ July 7 th Spent at Capt: Bavands in Waiting on y ^e newe Recorder ⁸⁵	„	1	0
	July 25 th Spent in goeing to the new Recorder and with M ^r Acton about the Companyes Business	„	1	4
1664	Paid M ^r Acton for his fees in Rockes Suit	1	15	0
	Paid which was spent with the Herald at Arms	„	„	4
1670	Steward Girdler went away with 10 ^s 2½ of the Companys w ^{ch} being allowed Steward Stockton then there will be Due to him more	-	18	2½
1672 May 29	P ^d for a Letter from London	„	1	0
1676 Aug 22	Spent on Waiting on the Maior and Recorder at the Pentice	„	1	2

⁸⁵ Richard Levinge was chosen by the Commissioners, and his appointment confirmed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Councilmen. He succeeded John Ratcliffe, who was removed for refusing to take the oath prescribed by Parliament.

COMPANIES OF CHESTER

103

		£	s.	d.
	Paid the Recorder ⁸⁶ for his fee	„	10	„
	Spent at Portmote Court	„	1	0
1677	Paid for loan of a saddle & bridle and repaires	„	2	6
	Spent at Alderman fformbys when wee Visited on the Lord Ormond	„	8	4
	For carrying the banner that day	„	1	0
1681 Aug 19	P ^d to M ^r Parker our Attorney	„	11	2
	P ^d for a post letter to Ald: Malbone	„	„	6
1684	P ^d the Glasier for new glass & leading the old glass in the Meeting house	1	16	0
„	April 23 Spent at Alderman Jack- sons waiting on Sir Peter Pinder	„	18	6
1687	P ^d at Alderman Malbones at the			
Jan 24	Coming in of Lord Tullet	1	0	0
1691	P ^d for a Copy of a Play [Plea]	„	1	0
1695	P ^d to Maiors Porter for fetching Alderman Brock	„	„	6
1696	Spent at M ^r Jacksons the Post- Master	„	11	0
1697 Aug 23	Spent upon the Thanksgiving Day	„	5	0
	Paid for Searching the Pentice Booke and getting a Warrant and Executing it	„	12	11
1699	Jan 23 P ^d M ^r Hunt his retaining fee ag st M ^r Pulford	-	10	-
	P M ^r Cheshire his fee	-	10	-
1701	March 23 Rec ^d of y ^e young woman for rent		2	6

⁸⁶ William Williams, of Anglesey, represented the City in Parliament and became Speaker of the House of Commons.

1702	April 3	P ^d for a Lre [letter] from London	£	s.	d.
			"	"	3
1703	May 22	Spent at Widdow Buckleys when the Duke of Ormand came to Chester	1	3	6
1707	May 1 st	Spent in bringing Brother Alcock home being upon the Union Day	2	15	0
1708	Sept 8	Spent when the officer of stamped paper came to inspect stamps in Chester	"	1	6
1709	Ap: 24	Spent when L ^d Wharton L ^d Lieutenant of Ireland came to Chester	"	6	0
		Spent at the London Bakers with M ^r John Malbone	1	3	0
1721		Spent when the Duke of Grafton Lord Lieutenant of Ireland came to Chester	"	15	10
1725		P ^d for a key for one of the locks of the chest in the Meeting House	"	1	6
1732		Spent when the Duke of Dorset Lord Lieutenant of Ireland came to Chester	"	18	0
1739		Spent when War was proclaymed			
May 5		ag st Spain and for Warning the Company upon that Acc ^t	"	16	0
		P ^d for horses for the Aldermen & for carry the Colours	"	4	0
1744		Spent after proclaiming War Against ffrance	"	16	0
		Spent for horse-hire upon that occasion	"	4	0
1745	Nov 4.	Paid M ^r Stanier a fee for Baron Mainwaring	"	10	6
1748	Feb 9.	Spent at Proclaiming Peace	"	14	6

1762	July 13.	Paid for two horses upon War with Spain deing Declared this Day	£	s.	d.
			"	2	0
1763	Oct 18.	P ^d for horse hire when Peace Proclaimed	"	1	0
1776	April 19.	Paid M ^r Francis the City Cryer	"	1	0
1777	Nov: 5.	Paid for a new box for the use of the Company to put the Books and papers in	"	8	0
		Paid for a lock & Hinges Handles and screws for the box	"	12	6
1782		Paid for a stick of Wax	"	"	6"

ALDERMEN AND STEWARDS

The names of the Stewards have been carefully entered, year after year, in the books, but the same cannot be said of the Aldermen. In regard to the latter, there is a break from 1702 to 1718. The entries during that period regularly state "Given, or by Order of our Aldermen," etc.; but, with few exceptions, omit to mention the Alderman's name. This again applies to a period from 1723 to 1749. From that time to the present, their names are regularly entered. The following names of the Aldermen and Stewards are of those chosen on the Election day to fill the office for the ensuing year:—

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1497-8	Thomas Edyan Walter Andrews	Richard Totty Thomas Smyth
1498-9	Thomas Edyan Walter Andrews	Richard Totty Thomas Smyth
1636-7	Raphe Holmes Thomas Holmes	John Ryder Edward Croncke
1637-8	Raphe Holmes Thomas Holmes	John Ryder Edward Croncke

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1638-9	Raphe Holmes George Meacock	Thomas Taylor John Malbone
1639-40	Raphe Holmes George Meacock	William Meacock Humfrey Streete
1640-41	Raphe Holmes ⁸⁷ George Meacock	Cadwalladr Edwards Thomas Morris
1641-2	George Meacock James Ball	Thomas Malbone John Evans
1642-3	George Meacock James Ball	Thomas Malbone ⁸⁸ Richard Welsh
1643-4	George Meacock James Ball	Richard Welsh William Page
1644-5	George Meacock James Ball	William Page Thomas Hawkshaw
1645-6	George Meacock John Malbone	Thomas Hawkshaw Thomas Stockton
1646-7	George Meacock John Malbone	Thomas Stockton Anthony Nickols
1647-8	George Meacock John Malbone	Anthony Nickols Richard Formby
1648-9	John Malbone Thomas Morris	John Ball William Fisher
1649-50	John Malbone George Meacock	William Hayes Richard Haswell
1650-1	George Meacock Thomas Morris	Thomas Morris William Booth
1651-2	George Meacock Thomas Morris	Thomas Tylston John Walker
1652-3	William Page Thomas Hawkshaw	Thomas Annion Raph Almond
1653-4	William Page Thomas Hawkshaw	Raph Almond William Meacock
1654-5	Thomas Hawkshaw William Page	William Meacock John Johnson
1655-6	Thomas Hawkshaw William Page	William Fisher Richard Meacock

⁸⁷ Raphe Holmes died October 27, 1641.

⁸⁸ Thomas Malbone, Smith, repaired the Head-stock of the bell in 1637, and the Clock and Chimes 1654 and 1672, at St. Peter's, Chester (see *Church of St. Peter*, F. Simpson).

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1656-7	Thomas Hawkshaw William Page	William Fisher Richard Meacock
1657-8	Thomas Hawkshaw Thomas Morris ³⁹	Philip Jackson Hugh Thornly
1658-9	Thomas Hawkshaw William Page	Raph Almond John Bradshaw
1659-60	Thomas Hawkshaw William Page	Anthony Niccoll John Bradshaw
1660-61	Thomas Hawkshaw ⁴⁰ William Page	Robert Hill Richard Stockton
1661-2	— — Meacock	Robert Hill Richard Stockton
1662-3	— — Meacock	Thomas Annion John Bradshaw
1663-4	— Meacock R. Formby	Thomas Annion Matthew Cowler
1664-5	— Meacock R. Formeby	John Malbon George Jackson
1665-6	— Meacock R. Formby	John Malbon George Jackson
1666-7	— Meacock R. Formby	John Johnson Richard Bavand
1667-8	— Meacock Thomas Annion	Thomas Price Reynold Woode
1668-9	— Meacock Thomas Annions	Thomas Price Reynold Woode
1669-70	— Meacock ⁴¹ Thomas Annion Humphrey [?] Streete	Richard Stockton — Girdler
1670-1	Thomas Annion John Johnson ⁴²	William Heyes John Lewis
1671-2	Raph Almond John Johnson	— Brock — Dodd
1672-3	R. Formby John Johnson	Charles Jackson — Cotton

³⁹ Thomas Morris died March, 1662.⁴⁰ Thomas Hawkshaw died October, 1661.⁴¹ Alderman Meacock died March, 1670.⁴² John Johnson, Mayor, 1659.

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1673-4	R. Formby John Johnson	Charles Jackson William Page Jun ^r
1674-5	John Johnson John Malbon	William Page Jun ^r Charles Jackson
1675-6	John Johnson John Malbon	Richard Bavan[d] Charles Jackson
1676-7	R. Formby John Johnson	Robert Evans Raph Wilson
1677-8	R. Formby John Johnson	Robert Evans Raph Wilson
1678-9	R. Formby John Johnson	Samuel Morris George Heath
1679-80	John Malbon John Johnson	William Johnson Richard Grundy
1680-1	John Malbon John Johnson ⁴⁸	Thomas Alcott John Tilston
1681-2	John Malbon John Johnson	Thomas Alcott John Tilston
1682-3	— Bavan — Jackson	Joseph Prickett John Thornley
1683-4	— Bavan — Jackson	Richard Grundy John Thornley
1684-5	— Jackson — Murrye	Richard Grundy John Thornley
1685-6	— Jackson — Wilcocks	John Lewis Thomas Bradshaw
1686-7	John Malbone — Bavan	Richard Haslow George Quick
1687-8	John Malbone — Bavan	William Briscoe George Quick
1688-9	John Malbon — Bavan	Thomas Price Randle Ince
1689-90	John Malbone — Bavan	Thomas Price Randle Ince
1690-91	John Malbone — Wilcocks	George Heath Robert Cowdock
1691-2	John Malbone — Wilcocks	Joseph Buckley William Quick
1692-3	John Malbone — Wilcocks	Joseph Buckley William Quick

⁴⁸ John Johnson, Mayor 1659, Sheriff 1684.

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1693-4	— Wilcocks Thomas Brock	Robert Cowdock Richard Bavan
1694-5	— Wilcocks Thomas Brock	Richard Bavan Francis Sayer ⁴⁴
1695-6	— Wilcocks Thomas Brock	Francis Sayer John Page
1696-7	John Malbone Thomas Bradshaw	John Page George Carman
1697-8	John Malbone Thomas Bradshaw	Thomas Ludman George Carman
1698-9	Thomas Bradshaw _____	Richard Brock Griffith Malbon
1699-1700	John Johnson _____	Griffith Malbon John Tudor
1700-1	John Johnson _____	John Tudor Maurice Briscoe
1701-2	John Johnson ⁴⁵ _____	Maurice Briscoe Ellis Hughes
1702-3	_____ _____	Ellis Hughes John Totty
1703-4	_____ _____	John Thornley George Griffith
1704-5	_____ _____	John Thornley George Griffith
1705-6	_____ _____	John Totty Joseph Alcott
1706-7	_____ — Coke	Joseph Alcott Francis Ilsley
1707-8	_____ — Coke	Francis Ilsley Randle Burrowes
1708-9	_____ _____	Randle Burrowes Hugh Thornley
1709-10	_____ _____	Hugh Thornley Samuel Broughill
1710-11	_____ _____	Thomas Brock Thomas Alcott Jun ^r
1711-12	_____ _____	Thomas Alcott Jun ^r Samuel Malbon

⁴⁴ Francis Sayer, Sheriff, 1706.

⁴⁵ John Johnson, senr., died 1705-6.

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1712-13	_____	John Johnson John Kemp
1713-14	_____	John Kemp John Griffiths
1714-15	_____	Thomas Ludman Joseph Alcott
1715-16	_____	John Griffiths Richard Cowdock
1716-17	_____	Richard Cowdock Randle Reece
1717-18	_____	Randle Reece Isaac Warmingham
1718-19	Thomas Brock ⁴⁶ _____	Isaac Warmingham John Smith
1719-20	Thomas Brock _____	Maurice Briscoe John Totty
1720-21	Thomas Brock _____	John Smith John Hughes
1721-2	Thomas Brock Francis Sayer ⁴⁷	John Hughes Jonathon Prestbury
1722-3	Thomas Brock Francis Sayer	Jonathon Prestbury Richard Brock Jun ^r
1723-4	Thomas Brock _____	Richard Brock Jun ^r Richard Briscoe
1724-5	_____	Richard Briscoe Thomas Briscoe
1725-6	_____	Thomas Briscoe William Page
1726-7	_____	William Page John Peacock
1727-8	_____	John Peacock Thomas Usher
1728-9	T. Alcock _____	Thomas Usher John Sayer
1729-30	_____	John Sayer Robert Brock

⁴⁶ Thomas Brock, Sheriff 1715.⁴⁷ Francis Sayer, Sheriff 1706, Mayor 1714.

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1730-31	— Griffies Thomas Brock ⁴⁸	Robert Brock Thomas Broster
1731-2	——— Thomas Brock	Samuel Hostage Robert Cowdock
1732-3	——— Thomas Brock	Robert Cowdock Charles Coleclough
1733-4	——— Thomas Brock	Charles Coleclough George Totty
1734-5	——— Thomas Brock	George Totty William Huntington
1735-6	——— ———	William Huntington William Briscoe
1736-7	——— ———	William Briscoe Thomas Alcock Jun ^r
1737-8	——— ———	Thomas Alcock Jun ^r Francis Buckley
1738-9	——— Thomas Broster ⁴⁹	George Griffies William Crookes
1739-40	——— ———	George Griffies William Crookes
1740-41	——— ———	George Griffies William Crookes
1741-2	——— ———	George Griffies Jun ^r William Painter
1742-3	——— ———	William Painter John Briscoe
1743-4	——— ———	Holme Burrowes Roger Danson
1744-5	——— ———	Holme Burrowes Roger Danson
1745-6	——— ———	Richard Briscoe William Huntington
1746-7	——— ———	Richard Briscoe William Huntington
1747-8	——— ———	Richard Briscoe William Huntington
1748-9	——— ———	George Totty Robert Cowdock

⁴⁸ Thomas Brock, Sheriff, 1715; Mayor, 1729-30.⁴⁹ Thomas Broster, Sheriff, 1737-8.

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1749-50	Thomas Brock Thomas Broster	Richard James Robert Cowdock
1751-55	Thomas Brock ⁵⁰ Thomas Broster	Robert Voxall John Johnson
1755-56	Richard Brock Holme Burrowes ⁵¹	Thomas Brock John Thomas
1756-7	Richard Brock Holme Burrowes	John Thomas James Butler
1757-8	Richard Brock ⁵² Holme Burrowes	James Butler William Briscoe
1758-9	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	William Briscoe Jun ^r Roger Dawson
1759-60	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	George Totty Thomas Alcock
1760-61	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Thomas Alcock Thomas Jones
1761-2	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	John Huntington John Kerry
1762-3	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	John Kerry Thomas Jones
1763-4	Holme Burrowes ⁵³ John Thomas ⁵⁴	Thomas Jones Richard Briscoe
1764-5	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Richard Briscoe Richard James
1765-6	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Richard James Roger Dawson
1766-7	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Roger Dawson Charles Cowdock
1767-8	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Charles Cowdock Thomas Barnes
1768-9	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Thomas Barnes Robert Voxall
1769-70	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Robert Voxall John Totty

⁵⁰ Alderman Thomas Brock was buried at St. Peter's, 7th May, 1755.

⁵¹ Holme Burrowes, Sheriff, 1750.

⁵² Richard Brock died 1758-9.

⁵³ Holme Burrowes, Cutler, made free August 18, 1739, Sheriff 1750, Mayor 1763.

⁵⁴ John Thomas, Sheriff 1763.

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1770-71	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	John Totty Edward Jones
1771-2	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Edward Jones Samuel Bromfield
1772-3	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Samuel Bromfield William Davies
1773-4	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	William Davies Thomas Dicas
1774-5	Holme Burrowes John Thomas	Thomas Dicas Thomas Brock
1775-6	Thomas Barnes Samuel Bromfield	Edward Jones Roger Dawson
1776-7	Thomas Barnes Samuel Bromfield	Roger Dawson Richard Briscoe
1777-8	Thomas Barnes John Thomas	Richard Briscoe Charles Cowdock
1778-9	John Thomas Richard Briscoe	Charles Cowdock Robert Yoxall
1779-80	John Thomas Thomas Barnes	Robert Yoxall Edward Jones
1780-81	Thomas Barnes John Thomas	Edward Jones John Totty
1781-2	John Thomas Thomas Barnes	Samuel Bromfield William Davies
1782-3	Thomas Barnes John Thomas?	William Davies Thomas Dicas
1783-4	Thomas Barnes John Thomas?	Thomas Dicas Thomas Totty
1784-5	Thomas Barnes John Thomas?	Thomas Totty Richard Briscoe
1785-6	Thomas Barnes John Thomas?	Richard Briscoe Robert Yoxall
1786-7	Thomas Barnes John Thomas?	Robert Yoxall Edward Jones
1787-8	Thomas Barnes John Thomas?	Edward Jones Samuel Bromfield
1788-9	Thomas Barnes John Thomas?	Samuel Bromfield William Davies
1789-90	Thomas Barnes John Thomas	William Davies Thomas Dicas

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1790-1	Thomas Barnes John Thomas	Thomas Dicas J. James Butler
1791-2	Thomas Barnes Samuel Bromfield	James Butler Richard James
1792-3	Thomas Barnes Samuel Bromfield	Richard James John Briscoe
1793-4	Thomas Barnes Samuel Bromfield	John Briscoe John Butler
1794-5	Thomas Barnes Samuel Bromfield	John Butler John Chesters
1795-6	Thomas Barnes Samuel Bromfield	John Chesters John Briscoe
1796-7	Thomas Barnes ————	John Briscoe Thomas Dicas
1797-8	Thomas Barnes Thomas Jones	Thomas Dicas Sam ^l Barnes
1798-9	Thomas Barnes James Butler	Samuel Barnes William Davies
1799-1800	Thomas Barnes James Butler	William Davies Benjamin Barnes
1800-01	Thomas Barnes James Butler	Benjamin Barnes William Bellin
1801-2	Thomas Barnes James Butler	William Bellin John Butler
1802-3	Thomas Barnes James Butler	John Butler John Mellor
1803-4	Thomas Barnes James Butler	John Mellor Jun ^r John Chesters
1804-5	Thomas Barnes James Butler	John Chesters Thomas Barnes Jun ^r
1805-6	Thomas Barnes James Butler	Thomas Barnes Jun ^r John Briscoe
1806-7	Thomas Barnes James Butler	John Briscoe John Butler
1807-8	Thomas Barnes James Butler	John Butler John Chesters
1808-9	Thomas Barnes Thomas Jones	William Davies Benjamin Barnes

⁵⁵ Thomas Barnes, Mayor, 1796-7.

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1809-10	Thomas Barnes Thomas Jones	Benjamin Barnes William Bellin
1810-11	Thomas Barnes Thomas Jones	William Bellin John Briscoe
1811-12	Thomas Barnes John Briscoe	John Briscoe John Butler
1812-13	Thomas Barnes John Briscoe	John Butler John Chesters
1813-14	Thomas Barnes John Briscoe	John Butler John Chesters
1814-15	Thomas Barnes John Briscoe	John Chesters William Davies
1815-16	Thomas Barnes John Briscoe	William Davies William Bellin
1816-17	John Mellor John Butler	William Bellin Thomas Chesters
1817-18	John Mellor John Butler	Thomas Chesters Robert Horton
1818-19	John Mellor John Butler	Robert Horton John Campbell
1819-20	Thomas Barnes John Chesters	John Campbell Robert Griffiths
1820-1	Thomas Barnes John Chesters	William Bellin Thomas Chesters
1821-2	John Chesters John Campbell	Thomas Chesters William Bellin
1822-3	John Chesters John Briscoe	William Bellin Thomas Chesters
1823-4	John Chesters John Briscoe	William Bellin Timothy P. Chesters
1824-5	John Chesters John Briscoe	William Bellin Thomas Chesters
1825-6	John Chesters John Briscoe	Thomas Chesters William Bellin
1826-7	John Chesters William Bellin	Thomas Chesters John Campbell
1827-8	John Chesters William Bellin	Timothy P. Chesters W ^m Washington
1828-9	John Chesters John Campbell	W ^m Washington G. Campbell

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1829-30	[No entry this year]	
1830-1	John Campbell John Chesters	Robert Horton Edward Williams
1831-2	John Campbell Robert Horton	Thomas Chesters William Washington
1832-3	John Campbell Robert Horton	Thomas Chesters William Washington
1833-4	John Campbell Robert Horton	William Washington George Campbell
1834-5	John Campbell Robert Horton	William Washington George Campbell
1835-6	John Campbell Robert Horton	Edward Williams Samuel Holmes
1836-7	John Campbell William Washington	Samuel Holmes George Campbell
1837-8	John Campbell William Washington	Edward Williams Samuel Holmes
1838-9	John Campbell William Washington	Samuel Holmes Edward Williams
1839-40	John Campbell William Washington	Edward Williams George Campbell
1840-1	John Campbell William Washington	George Campbell Edward Williams
1841-2	John Campbell William Washington	George Campbell Edward Williams
1842-3	John Campbell William Washington	Robert Horton Daniel Pinnington Chesters
1843-4	John Campbell William Washington	Daniel Pinnington Chesters Robert Horton
1844-5	John Campbell William Washington	Timothy Davies John Horton
1845-6	John Campbell William Washington	Timothy Davies John Horton
1846-7	John Campbell William Washington	John Horton Robert Horton
1847-8	William Washington George Campbell	Timothy Davies Thomas Williams

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1848-9	William Washington George Campbell	Thomas Williams William Horton
1849-50	William Washington George Campbell	William Horton John Horton
1850-1	William Washington George Campbell	John Horton Timothy Davies
1851-2	William Washington George Campbell	John Horton Timothy Davies
1852-3	William Washington George Campbell	Timothy Davies Daniel Pinington Chesters
1853-4	William Washington George Campbell	Daniel Pinington Chesters William Horton
1854-5	William Washington George Campbell	William Sandford Horton George Washington
1855-6	William Washington George Campbell	George Washington William Washington Jun ^r
1856-7	William Washington George Campbell	William Washington Jun ^r William Williams
1857-8	William Washington George Campbell	William Williams Robert Horton
1858-9	William Washington George Campbell	Robert Horton Daniel Pinington Chesters
1859-60	William Washington George Campbell	William Sandford Horton George Washington
1860-1	William Washington George Campbell	George Washington Thomas Chesters
1861-2	William Washington George Campbell	Thomas Chesters William Washington Jun ^r
1862-3	William Washington George Campbell	William Washington Jun ^r William Williams
1863-4	William Washington Robert Horton	William Williams Samuel Jones

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1864-5	William Washington Robert Horton	Charles Washington Thomas Holmes
1865-6	William Washington Robert Horton	Thomas Holmes William Horton
1866-7	William Washington Robert Horton	George Washington Thomas Chesters
1867-8	William Washington Robert Horton	John Horton Timothy Davies
1868-9	William Washington Robert Horton	Thomas Chesters William Washington (Tuner)
1869-70	William Washington Robert Horton	William Washington Charles Washington
1870-71	William Washington Robert Horton	Charles Washington Daniel Penington Chesters
1871-2	William Washington Robert Horton	Daniel Penington Chesters William S. Horton
1872-3	William Washington Robert Horton	William S. Horton George Washington
1873-4	Robert Horton John Horton	George Washington Thomas Chesters
1874-5	Robert Horton John Horton	William Williams Timothy Davies
1875-6	Robert Horton John Horton	Samuel Jones Charles Washington
1876-7	Robert Horton John Horton	Daniel Pinington Chesters William Sandford Horton
1877-8	John Horton Robert Horton	John Horton Jun ^r Arthur William Chesters
1878-9	John Horton George Washington	John Horton Jun ^r Arthur William Chesters
1879-80	John Horton William Washington	Arthur William Chesters Charles H. Chesters

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1880-81	John Horton Daniel Pinington Chesters	Charles H. Chesters William Washington
1881-2	John Horton Daniel Pinington Chesters	William Washington William Williams
1882-3	John Horton Daniel Pinington Chesters	William Williams Charles Washington
1883-4	John Horton Daniel Pinington Chesters	————— William Williams
1884-5	John Horton Daniel Pinington Chesters	Charles Washington Samuel Jones
1885-6	John Horton Daniel Pinington Chesters	Samuel Jones Edward Williams
1886-7	Daniel Pinington Chesters William Williams	John Horton Jun ^r Charles H. Chesters
1887-8	William Williams Charles Washington	Charles H. Chesters Arthur William Chesters
1888-9	Daniel Pinington Chesters William Williams	Charles H. Chesters Arthur William Chesters
1889-90	Daniel Pinington Chesters William Williams	Arthur William Chesters Joseph H. Chesters
1890-91	Daniel Pinington Chesters William Sandford Horton	Henry Chesters Charles W. Washington
1891-2	Daniel Pinington Chesters William Williams	Charles W. Washington Charles Jones
1892-3	Daniel Pinington Chesters William Williams	Charles Jones John Davies
1893-4	Thomas Holmes Charles W. Chesters	John Davies Walter S. Washington

	<i>Aldermen</i>	<i>Stewards</i>
1894-5	Thomas Holmes Edward Williams	Walter S. Washington Frederick Formstone
1895-6	Thomas Williams Samuel Jones (No. 1)	Frederick Formstone John Muirhead
1896-7	Thomas Williams Samuel Jones ^{Senr}	John Muirhead Thomas Jones
1897-8	Edward Williams Arthur W. Chesters	Thomas Jones Charles W. Washington
1898-9	Thomas Williams Charles H. Chesters	Charles W. Washington Charles H. Chesters
1899-1900	Thomas Williams Edward Williams	Charles H. Chesters Arthur W. Chesters
1900-01	Thomas Williams Charles H. Chesters	Arthur W. Chesters Henry Chesters
1901-2	Charles H. Chesters Arthur W. Chesters	Henry Chesters Charles W. Washington
1902-3	Charles H. Chesters Arthur W. Chesters	Thomas Williams Samuel Jones
1903-4	Charles H. Chesters Arthur W. Chesters	Charles Jones John Davies
1904-5	Charles H. Chesters Arthur W. Chesters	John Davies Walter S. Washington
1905-6	Charles H. Chesters Arthur W. Chesters	Walter S. Washington Frederick Formstone
1906-7	Charles H. Chesters Arthur W. Chesters	Frederick Formstone Joseph H. Chesters
1907-8	Charles H. Chesters Thomas Williams	Joseph H. Chesters Henry Chesters
1908-9	Charles H. Chesters Thomas Williams	Joseph H. Chesters —————
1909-10	Charles H. Chesters Thomas Williams	Charles Jones John Davies
1910-11	Thomas Williams Charles H. Chesters	Charles Jones John Davies
1911-12	Thomas Williams Charles H. Chesters	Sam ^l Richard Jones William Catherall
1912-13	Thomas Williams Charles H. Chesters	Sam ^l Richard Jones William Catherall
1913-14	Charles H. Chesters Arthur W. Chesters	Frederick Formstone Thomas Jones

It is interesting to note the long connection between some of the old Chester families and this Gild, or Company; for instance: Richard Totty was Steward of the Company in 1497, and, therefore, must have been a member some years prior to being elected an Officer. The name Tottye, or Totty, continues year after year until July 22nd, 1812, thus showing that members of this family were Gilds-men of this Company for at least three hundred and fifteen years. The family of Chesters have been members for upwards of two hundred and twenty-nine years; the Hortons for one hundred years; and the Washingtons for ninety years.

There are 739 Freemen on the Rolls of the city, of whom about 350 are members of the City Companies, the Smiths' Company accounting for twenty-two.

To be a Freeman of one's city is no mean honour. This should be borne in mind by every young man entitled to take up his freedom, and he should claim that right at the earliest opportunity as a proof of his loyalty and good citizenship.





Notes on the Chester Hand or Glove

BY R. STEWART-BROWN, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read 17th December, 1912)



WITH the consent of the Museums Committee of the Liverpool Corporation, I have been able to get the Curator of the Museum, Dr. Clubb, to allow me to bring here to-night, for exhibition to you, a somewhat unprepossessing object which must, however, have considerable attraction for everyone interested in the history of the City of Chester.¹ I refer to the famous Chester Hand or Glove. As you will see, this is a rudely carved representation in wood of a hand. It measures $12\frac{3}{8}$ inches from the wrist to the tip of the second finger, and is $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at the wrist, and weighs $15\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. It is obviously of considerable age, and shows a certain amount of wear and tear; and a piece, at some time or other (probably, as we shall see, in 1836), has been cut out of it. It has been painted, doubtless very often, and with different coloured paint such as white, red and black. At the point where the Hand is severed from the arm there is, you will see, a metal ring and hook inserted. By these the Hand was attached to the end of a long pole, which

¹ As a result of this paper, the Town Hall Committee of the Chester Corporation decided, on the proposal of the Mayor, Mr. Dutton, to communicate with the Corporation of Liverpool, with a view to obtaining the transfer of the Hand to Chester. As it formed part of the Mayer Collection, and there were other difficulties in arranging such a transfer, the Museums Committee decided not to entertain the proposal.



The Chester Hand or Glove.

was hung out during fair-time from the front of the Pentice until that was removed, and afterwards from the battlements of St. Peter's Church. You will observe that the effect of this suspension was that the fingers of the Hand pointed downwards, and this may have some bearing upon the symbolic use of the Hand which I shall mention shortly.

As will appear from what I have to say, it seems that, in 1836, or later, the Hand passed into the possession of the late Joseph Mayer, the Liverpool jeweller and art collector; and, in 1867, his collection became by gift the property of the Corporation of Liverpool. Professor Newstead some years ago had a cast made of this Hand, which is now in your Grosvenor Museum in Chester, and is a very close representation of the original.²

The Hand bears some incised lettering round the wrist, and, when I saw it recently with Mr. Entwistle, the deputy curator of the Liverpool Museum, we carefully examined the lettering; it was, however, impossible then to make it out clearly owing to the fact that the incisions had got filled up, partly with the paint used to colour it and partly, no doubt, with a certain amount of the dirt of ages. Mr. Entwistle, at my request, carefully dissolved away the plaster, paint and dirt, with potash (which accounts for the cleaned appearance of the wrist), and a most interesting inscription (which has not in any way been touched up) was revealed as follows:—

On the back of the wrist—

HVGO COMES CESTRIA

On the inside of the wrist—

GVILDA DE CIVIT. MERCAT.
MCLIX

² This cast was exhibited at the meeting.

Cestria, in the first line, ought, of course, to be *Cestriae* or *Cestrie*, and since Prof. Newstead made his cast referred to above, someone has, most improperly, endeavoured to improve upon the original by inserting an "E" after the word on the cast.

Civit. is an abbreviation of *civitate*, and the last word is doubtless *mercatoria*, which frequently occurs with *gilda* in the charters, &c. We get, therefore, a statement upon the Hand as follows:—

"Hugh Earl of Chester. Guild Merchant of the City 1159."

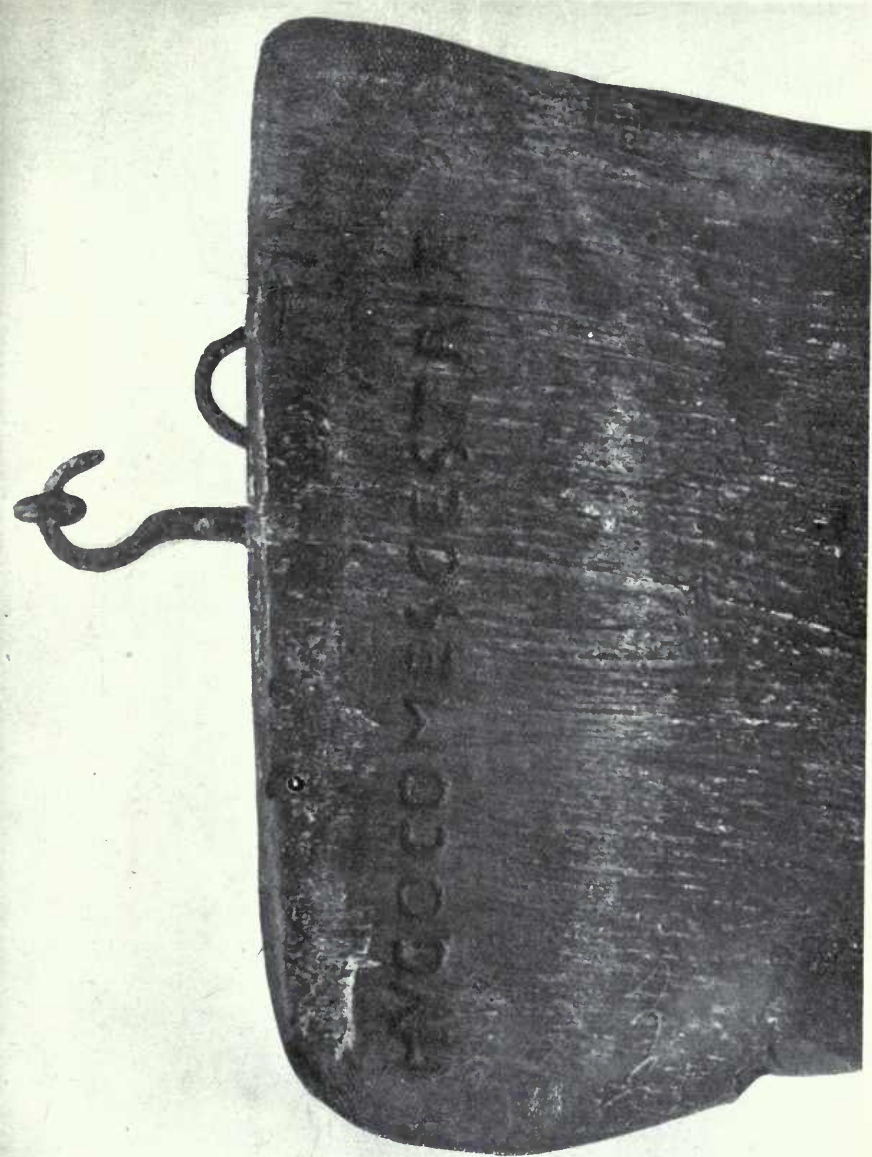
It is clear that the presence of an inscription was known to Mr. Charles T. Gatty, F.S.A., the late Curator of the Mayer Museum, but he did not decipher it completely, and makes a muddle of it in the catalogue which he made in 1882; his description was:—

"Apparently VIT ME R CAT MCLIX HVGO COMES CESTRIA, which may have been cut within the last two centuries." ³

This Hand is, I am sure, not of the date 1159 which it bears. I asked Mr. J. A. Twemlow, B.A., the Reader in Paleography at the University of Liverpool, to give me his opinion as to the date of the lettering. He obtained a rough rubbing of the inscription and kindly sent it to Mr. Falconer Madan of the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Both Mr. Twemlow and Mr. Madan consider there is nothing genuinely antique in the lettering.⁴ Mr. Madan, while he states that he is not an authority on cut inscriptions, considers that it may be of

³ See No. 437 on p. 68 of the *Cat. of the Mayer Museum*, Part III., Liverpool, 1882.

⁴ But the lettering should be compared with the same three words on the Sword of Earl Hugh in the British Museum. There is a remarkable similarity. See *Trans. Hist. Soc. Lanc. and Ches.*, vol. II., plate facing p. 15.



The Chester Hand or Glove
Lettering on back of Wrist

seventeenth century date. Mr. Twemlow is of opinion that it is certainly not earlier than 1550. Now if it is true that it has been the custom from the twelfth century to exhibit a hand during the fair times at Chester, one would naturally expect, if it were of wood, that the hand would get worn out or lost, and require to be renewed. I think that it is quite likely that the lettering on the Hand is copied from the original inscription which the first, possibly of a series, of the ancient hands bore, and that perhaps sometime during the sixteenth or seventeenth centuries the hand then in use was replaced by the one you have before you to-night.

What then is the significance of the inscription? An obvious suggestion is that it refers to or commemorates the foundation of the Guild Merchant of the City of Chester. Now we know that the Charter of Randle Blundeville, dated about 1201, confirmed to the citizens of Chester their Guild Merchant with all the liberties and free customs which they had in the time of his ancestors at the said Guild. This Charter, then, presupposes an earlier grant of a Guild in the time of one of Randle Blundeville's ancestors. There is no such Charter known to exist, but it is possible that in 1159 Hugh Cyfelioc (who was of course the father of Randle Blundeville) did grant a Guild Merchant to the City of Chester, and in accordance with an ancient custom (which I shall mention later) sent, or presented, to the City a Glove as a symbol of the concession. There are difficulties in this explanation, but it is the best I can make. I am aware that Canon Morris, relying no doubt on the word "ancestors," suggests that the date

of the original grant could not be later than the time of Randle Gernons (1128-53), and might be as early as 1087-1107.

The most important characteristic of the Guild Merchant was the exclusive right of trading in the City, which was confirmed by subsequent charters, and it may be suggested that one of the "customs" referred to in, and confirmed by, the Charter of Randle Blundeville was that of allowing strangers to transact business and buy and sell within the City with impunity, during the time of fair. I shall show later on that it was usual in many other places besides Chester to exhibit a hand or glove during fair time, either as a symbol of protection or of the concession of the right to hold it, and it would seem quite natural to inscribe upon such a hand a reference to the foundation of the Guild, one of the customs of which was thus to throw open the right to trade during certain well-recognised periods. Had it not been for the inscription, one would not perhaps have considered the question of Guild Merchant at all.

A Hand is a very ancient and natural symbol of peace, protection and power, but I have not the time or space to deal adequately with the literature of the subject.⁵ A glance at Cruden's *Concordance* will show that there are hundreds of symbolic allusions to it in the Scriptures. That the King *habet omnia jura in manu sua* is a commonplace in our histories. The old English word "handgrith"—"hand-selled grith"—was used to indicate the peace, protection or security given under or by the King's own hand. In this sense we

⁵ The most recent work dealing with the subject is *The Lost Language of Symbolism* by H. Bayley, 2 vols., 1912. In vol. II., p. 331, *et seq.*, will be found many drawings illustrating various symbolic uses of the Hand.



The Chester Hand or Glove
Lettering on inside of Wrist

find it used in early English laws and compacts, e.g., *Haec mittunt hominem in misericordia Regis, infractio pacis quam per manum suam dabit alicui*. We may note also that on coins of King Edward the elder, some of which were found at St. John's, Chester, an open hand is displayed, in some cases pointing upwards, and in others downwards. Also, that a hand or glove appears sculptured on either side of an early English cross upon a tombstone found at St. John's Church. This may have been the tomb of a glover, but the symbol of peace seems to me just as likely.

There are some interesting statements about this "King's Peace," or protection, in that portion of Domesday Book dealing with Chester itself. From this we learn that there were there three kinds of "King's Peace" of varying importance. For a breach of the peace when such peace had been granted or extended by the King's own hand (*pax data manu regis*),⁶ or by his writ or authorised representative, the penalty was a hundred shillings, payable to the King. But where the protection had been granted by the Earl of Chester, at the King's command, the Earl shared in the penalty to the extent of every third penny. For breach of protection given by a subordinate, such as the royal bailiff or the Earl's officers, the penalty was only forty shillings, in which the Earl shared as before.

After the Conquest, the Earls of Chester continued to grant their "peace" to favoured persons. According to the foundation deed of the Abbey of St. Werburgh in 1093, Hugh Lupus, the Earl, granted to the monks the revenues and tolls of a three days' fair held on the feast

⁶ For this, see also Gneist's *Hist. Eng. Constitution* (trans. Ashworth, 1891), p. 151, note. I am indebted to Mr. J. A. Twemlow for this reference.

of St. Werburgh in summer. He also undertook, for the honour of the Virgin Werburga, that every thief or wrongdoer who might come to the celebration should enjoy complete protection (*firman pacem*) when at the fair unless he transgressed therein. Earl Randle II. confirmed these grants, and also, we are told in the chartulary of St. Werburgh's Abbey, pledged his peace (*affidavit pacem suam*) to all persons coming to the fairs of the Abbey.

The disputes which lasted for centuries between the City and Abbey over the fairs do not fall within the scope of this paper, but would form an interesting subject for investigation.

It may be noted here that one of the conditions of tenure by which Thomas de Crewe held his lands in the time of Edward I., was to find an armed man at the Chester fairs to guard the gates for the preservation of the King's peace.⁷

Mr. Beck, in his book on "*Gloves*" (p. 192), says:—

"Ordinary law had no jurisdiction in fairs; when 'the peace' of a fair was proclaimed at its opening, perfect liberty was allowed to all and sundry, with immunity from arrest, so that even outlaws and the fugitive bondman might walk openly in confidence through the crowd which thronged the temporary streets of canvas booths, in which, in the Spicery, the Drapery, the Pottery, the Haberdashery, or the Mercery, the various traders were congregated. Did the master meet the runaway thrall, he might neither 'chace nor take him' (*Leges Burgorum*). All offences against the Peace of the Fair, all disputes as to bargains or the worth of the wares, were referred to a court attached by right to every fair, called, from the dusty feet of the suitors who made plaint therein, the Pie-poudre court. From decisions given therein there was no appeal"

⁷ Ormerod's *Cheshire* (1882), III., 365.

Mr. Beck, perhaps rightly, treats this symbol as a glove, not a hand.

“It was part of the royal prerogative to set up markets, and fairs were established by virtue of the king’s glove, which was the authority under which any free mart or market was held.”

He then quotes from the *Speculum Saxonicum*, and proceeds:—

“The glove was ordinarily displayed as a token of security under which trade might be carried on uninterrupted, and was emblematic of the power to maintain order of the king who sent it. In *Timon of Athens*, the senators ask a glove from Alcibiades before their submission:—

Or any token of thine honour else,
That thou wilt use the wars as thy redress,
And not as our confusion ;

and in pledge of protection to all but those who were enemies to the common weal Alcibiades gives his glove. So the glove was borne aloft at a fair in sign of security, a material guarantee of justice and good governance to all the busy concourse of people who flocked thither to chaffer and bargain for the necessities of life.”

The *Speculum Saxonicum*, or “Saxon Mirror,” referred to by Mr. Beck, is a collection of early German native customs, compiled by Eike von Repgow in the thirteenth century. The earliest edition which I have seen, was edited by Zobel at Leipsig in 1561, under the title of *Sachsenspiegel*.⁸ It contains, in Book II., article XXVI., the following statement in the original Latin text:—

“Nemini licet forum erigere uel monetam de nouo instituere sine consensu eius loci ordinarii seu iudicis. Etiam Rex in signum sui consensus suam ad hoc mittere debet chirothecam.”

⁸Folio copy in Liverpool Public Library. Another edition by K. G. Homeyer in 3 vols., 1827, and another in 1861. I have not seen these later editions.

After this comes the following translation into German:—

“Niemandt mag neue Merck oder Müntz erheben ohne des Richters das ist des Fürsten Willen in des Gerichte es leidt. Auch soll der König durch Recht sein Handtzeichen darzu senden zu einer Beweisung das es sein Wille sey.”

The Latin text may be translated as follows:—

“No one may set up a new market or mint without the consent of the ordinary of the district or of the judge; and the King also, as a token of his consent to the same, ought to send his glove.”

In the translation of the passage into the German, you will see that the word *Handtzeichen* is used for the Latin *chirotheca*. The German word literally means “Sign Manual,” and it is noticeable that the sixteenth century editor did not use the word *Handschuh*, which is the ordinary word for a glove.

We have then here evidence that, doubtless, long before the thirteenth century, there was an ancient Saxon custom under which, before a market or mint could be established, it was necessary to obtain the consent of the local judge or ordinary, and to have this viséd, so to speak, by the sending by the King of one of his gloves or gauntlets.

Upon this basis we ought to treat the Chester Hand as a Glove, and the suggestion would then follow, that the right to hold a fair or to have a Guild Merchant was allowed in 1159 by Earl Hugh to the citizens of Chester, and that he then sent a glove to signify his consent. (Apparently, however, there was already a fair in, or after, 1093, when the tolls and revenues *nundinarum trium dierum* (of a three days' fair) were

granted to the Abbey, but, as already stated, I have not attempted to investigate the history of the Chester Fairs).

In view of the extract just given from the *Speculum Saxonicum*, it is worth quoting a statement from the article on "Gloves" in the *Encyclopædia Britannica* (11th edition) that the hands which appear in the armorial bearings of certain German towns are really gloves, and reminiscent of the bestowal of one as a symbol of the concession whereby the town was founded or the market, or mint, there established. In these cases, the glove was sent as a pledge of personal fulfilment. An ancient example of this use (says the article) is

"the practice of tendering a folded glove as a gage for wagering one's law. The origin of this custom is probably not far to seek. The promise to fulfil a judgment of a court of law, a promise secured by the delivery of a *wed* or gage, is one of the oldest, if not the very oldest, of all enforceable contracts. This gage was originally a chattel of value which had to be deposited at once by the defendant as security unto his adversary's hand; and that the glove became the formal symbol of such deposit is doubtless due to its being the most convenient loose object for the purpose. The custom survived after the contract [undertaking] with the *vadium*, *wed* or gage had been superseded by the contract with pledges (personal sureties)

"He shall wage his law with his folded glove (*de son gaunt plyee*) and shall deliver it into the hand of the other, and then take his glove back and find pledges for his law.'"⁹

The throwing down of a glove as a challenge and the taking it up as an acceptance is really a survival of this wagering system.

Then again, there is the use of the glove as a symbol of investiture in the ancient German conveyance of

⁹ *Court Baron* (Selder Soc.) 17, and see Round's *Commune of London* 153, and the *Encycl. loc. cit.*

land, pictured to us by Maitland, in which the donor took off from his hand the war glove or gauntlet which would protect that hand in battle, and gave it to the donee who puts it on—thus his hand is invested, and equipped to fight in defence of this land against all comers.¹⁰

So much for the symbolic uses of hands and gloves. What do we know about this particular one ?

I expect there are several references to the Hand, or Glove, amongst your Chester Corporation Records, but until you follow the example of Liverpool and get your old Assembly Books and Orders printed, or calendared, very little can be done by the ordinary searcher. I have, however, obtained from the Assembly Books a reference in 1687. It is as follows:—

“At an Assembly att the Citty of Chester in the Common hall of pleas there upon Saturday the twentieth day of February Anno Regni Regis Domini nostri Jacobi Secundi Dei gratia nunc Angliae. &c. secundo. [1686-7] By Wm. Wilson Esqr. Maior of the Citty of Chester the Alderman [and] Common Councill of the same City.

That a Glove shall bee hung out to give notice of the Faire.

At which Assembly it being put to the question whether or noe a glove shold be hung forth according to the usuall custome att faire times to give notice of the approaching faire to be held the last Thursday in February according to the grant of the late King Charles the second of ever blessed memory, It is ordered by unanimous consent that a glove shall bee hung out to give notice of the said ensueing faire.

¹⁰ *Hist. of Eng. Law* (2nd ed.) ii. 85.

Mr. Partington and Mr. William- son sent to demand the Glove from the Governor.	Alsoe att the same Assembly it is ordered by like unanimous consent that Edward Partington, mercer, and John Williamson shall forthwith goe to Peter Shakerley Esqr. Governor of the Castle, and in the name of this incorporacion demand the glove which was lately hung up and which he caused to be taken downe."— <i>Book of Assembly Orders, 1687.</i>
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Now the two ancient Chester fairs were held in July and October, and it is tolerably clear from this that the Glove was displayed, not only at these, but also at the "Hoof and Horn" Fair granted by Charles II. on February 4, 1685-6, which was to be held, probably for the first time, on the last Thursday in February 1686-7. Peter Shakerley, the governor, was a son of Sir Geoffrey Shakerley of Hulme, Co. Chester, himself also a Royalist governor of Chester, who had fought at Rowton Heath. If, on this occasion, the governor declined to give up the Glove, the Common Council of Chester may have ordered a new one to be made.

The later history of the Glove is obscure until the early nineteenth century. There may be allusions to it in some of the early guide or hand books to the City, but I have not been able to search many of these.

Accompanying the Chester Glove in Mr. Mayer's collection (now in the Public Museum, Liverpool) was a label to the following effect:—

"No. 25. This piece of oak, better known in the City of Chester by the name of the glove, has for many centuries been occasionally hung out as an indication of the commencement of each fair. In olden times the glove was suspended from a pole in the front of the old Pentice, opposite the Cross. On the removal of the Pentice in the year 1803 (in order to widen the passage into Northgate and Watergate streets) the glove

afterwards was hung out at every fair from that period to the year 1836 from the south-east corner of St. Peter's Church. The glove has been many years in the care of one Peter Catharall, the clerk of St. Peter's, who received 3/9 per year, to recompence him for the trouble of fixing it up at the commencement, and taking it down at the conclusion of each fair. In October 1836 (end of the first year of the Municipal Reform Corporation), Catharall, the clerk, presented the glove to the Mayor (an old custom) and claimed 3/9, a customary fee for the charge of the glove. The Mayor¹¹ took the glove and looked at it very minutely, seemingly much astonished at its age. After applying his knife to prove the soundness of this piece of old Cestrian antiquity, the Mayor threw it at Catharall, and exclaimed, 'I will not allow you 3/9 for any such foolish old custom, you may do what you like with it.' It passed from Catharall to a person named Wilkinson, who sold it for two pints of ale at the Sign of the Boot in the City of Chester on 27th Dec., 1836."

On the back of the label was written :—

"No. 25. Scrap of Antiquity collected by Joseph Butler Dec. 27th, 1836. Translation¹²—Society of City Merchants 1159. Hugh Earl of Chester."

Some further details are given below as to the hands through which the Glove passed. Joseph Butler was an artist and sketcher in Liverpool and probably passed it on to Joseph Mayer, who was an omnivorous collector of curiosities.

The information on the label, but *minus* the important statement on the back of it, was contributed in March, 1882, to the columns of *The Cheshire Sheaf*¹³ by

¹¹ The worthy Mayor who is really responsible for the presence of the Glove in a neighbouring city appears to have been one Wm. Cross, the first Mayor of the reformed Council. He went out of office on November 9, 1836, when Thos. Dixon succeeded.

¹² This refers to the Latin legend on the Glove, which is mentioned above, p. 123.

¹³ Series I., vol. II., p. 326. There are a few immaterial verbal differences, and 27th November, 1836, is given as the date of sale.

Mr. C. T. Gatty, the Curator of the Mayer Museum, and led to a communication in 1884 on the subject by Mr. Thomas Hughes, F.S.A., under the initials "G.T." :—

"I can offer a few observations on this historic emblem, which, though it is of no artistic form or character whatever, has found, I suppose, a permanent home in the Liverpool Free Public Museum. As the relic has literally nothing in common with Liverpool City, but represents, on the other hand, a distinct feature in the ancient trade of Chester, in which City the Glover's was the staple article (*sic*) of manufacture . . . perhaps this unshapely emblem may be gracefully restored to its old home. Some of the particulars supplied by your correspondent, Mr. Gatty, do not quite agree with the story, as told to, and known by, myself at the time, say 40 or 50 years ago.

"I remember on many occasions in my boyhood [Mr. Hughes was born in 1824] seeing the 'Glove' dangling like an executed felon from a pole hanging forward from the roof of St. Peter's Church just over the spot where the fountain now [Dec. 1884] stands; and I was once taken indeed on to the roof to see it put out by the late Mr. Edwin Siddall, cutler, who was at that time Parish Clerk of St. Peter's, and, as such, had charge of the glove, and received some slight annual allowance from the city for attending to that customary duty. Peter Cathrall, of the 'Bridgewater Arms,' who had many years preceded him as sexton in his tenure of the keys, had been porter also of the 'Glove.' " ¹⁴

Some further interesting details are given in a letter written to the *Oswestry Advertiser* by someone who signed himself "Cecil," Upton Park, Chester. A cutting from the newspaper is now attached to the cast of the Hand in the Grosvenor Museum, and is as follows :—

"I have in my possession the following statement made in July, 1858, by Samuel Brown, herald painter, of Chester: 'The

¹⁴ *Sheaf I.*, vol. III., p. 199. There is an "Epitaph on the late Sexton at St. Peter's Church" (old Cathrall) written in 1837 in *Sheaf I.*, vol. III., p. 249.

old wooden glove was suspended from the outer wall of the south spout (near Northgate-street) of St. Peter's Church, Chester—the origin of which was, tradition says, that when fairs were first held in Chester in July and October, the glove was hung out fourteen days before each fair, to represent the hand of friendship, and to invite the neighbouring towns to send their merchandise to Chester, particularly the Irish weavers of linen, great quantities of which were disposed of at these fairs. The Corporation allowed the sexton of St. Peter's 5s. per annum for taking care of and hanging out the glove, but of late years they reduced the salary to 2s., and at last to 1s. 6d., when in 1836 Peter Catheral, the then sexton, received orders to discontinue the hanging out, and was told he might do what he liked with it. Then he gave it to the then clerk, Edward Sidall, gun-maker, and in 1837 Sidall gave it to a man by the name of Joseph Huxley, an upholsterer, whose father-in-law (a Sergeant Wilkinson) begged it from Huxley, his son-in-law, and in 1837 Wilkinson sent it to Liverpool. Nothing has been heard of it since. The writer of this knew all the parties well.—July, 1858. Samuel Brown, herald painter.' The identical wooden hand is to be seen now in the Liverpool Museum, case 437, No. 5,978, with the following words: 'Wooden hand hung out for some centuries in Chester, to indicate the opening of the City Fairs.' Having made the discovery myself, might I be allowed to suggest that it would be an act of grace and courtesy of the directors of the Liverpool Museum to send the 'hand' back to the ancient city, to the Grosvenor Museum, as its future resting place?"

In confirmation of the general outline of the above stories, it may be mentioned that there is a note of a discussion in 1862 about the Hand in vol. II. (O.S.) of the *Journal* of the Chester Archæological and Historic Society, p. 418, where it is stated that:—

"It was elicited this relic of an ancient Chester custom had disappeared from the City, and that it had been last traced to the possession of a person in Liverpool whose whereabouts could not now be ascertained."

There are one or two other references to the Hand which it may be useful to collect :

In September, 1879, Dr. T. Davies-Colley of Newton stated in a note on "Chester in 1815":—

"Formerly the Glove Trade as is, I suppose, well known, was a flourishing business in Chester; and I recollect well that the glove was regarded as an emblem of Cheshire Trade; and that at our two great Chester chartered Fairs in July and October, a glove, carved, I think, in wood, was hung out from the roof of St. Peter's Church at the Cross, to show that traders from a distance, though not sworn Freemen, might carry on their business without fear of being pounced upon by the city authorities."¹⁵

Then again in *The Cheshire Sheaf* appeared a reprint of "A Walk in the Rows of 1815," written by John Lowe of Chester, goldsmith, son of the George Lowe to whom he refers:—

"Passing Mr. Marsh's shop [in Bridge Street Row] we reach that of the highly respected Mr. George Lowe, goldsmith, who had been compelled to remove hither from the lean-to Pentice at the north west [? south-east] corner of St. Peter's Church—the Commissioners of Police having determined to remove this obstruction to the thoroughfare. Above his shop at the Cross was suspended by immemorial custom, the 'Glove' or 'hand' from the battlements of the Church, to invite strange merchants to bring their wares to the Fairs on the 5th July and 10th of October. The 'Glove' was taken in at the expiration of a fortnight when the Leave Lookers went round to see that the strangers were leaving the City; otherwise they were required to take up and pay for their freedom, or in default be summarily removed."¹⁶

Mr. G. W. Shrubsole mentions the Hand in the account of "*Gloverstone*," which he wrote in 1893. He says:—

"Fairs in the past were a great institution with which trade largely entered. Our local custom was to hang a glove out-

¹⁵ *Sheaf I.*, vol. 1, p. 287.

¹⁶ *Sheaf I.*, vol. 3, p. 157.

side St. Peter's Church, fourteen days before and till the close of the fair, twenty-nine days in all, when non-freemen were allowed to trade in the City. The Glove or gloved hand was not only a notification that the fair might be held, but it told a somewhat quarrelsome race and the victims of harsh laws that at this time the King's peace must not be broken. To the multitudes who met at the fair in an age when reading was rare the King's peace was declared by some symbolic proclamation, the pledge of good faith and safety to all, such as that right hand which used to swing at the first from the Pentice Court, at the City Cross. It was the only sign manual, probably, which that unlettered age could understand." ¹⁷

There is a note in the same volume of your transactions (p. 340) from which it appears that this is not the first time the Hand has been shown to the Society:—

"An old wooden hand, formerly the property of Chester, now in the possession of the Liverpool Free Public Museum, was exhibited. Alderman Charles Brown said, 'I perfectly well remember this identical glove being hung out by a rod extending from the battlements on the south side of St. Peter's Church. The rod was about four feet from the battlements. I am told this glove was found in a Museum at Liverpool—how it got there I cannot possibly tell. I believe it to be the identical glove, and I hope that some effort will be made to restore it to its old home—Chester.'"

There are two notes in Helsby's edition of Ormerod's *Cheshire*, as follows:—

"During the two annual fairs a glove used to be hung out from St. Peter's Church as an intimation that stranger traders might, during those periods only, transact business within the City." ¹⁸

"A glove is [no longer] hung out at St. Peter's Church at the site of the ancient Pentice, whilst the strangers and non-

¹⁷ *Jour. Chester Arch. and Hist. Soc.*, vol. 5 (N.S.), p. 188.

¹⁸ Vol. 1, 323 note.

freemen are [or rather were] thus allowed to exhibit their goods and is [now no more to be seen] suspended fourteen days before the commencement of each fair, the entire time being [when the custom prevailed] twenty-nine days. [The glove was suspended for the last time at St. Peter's about a quarter of a century since.]”¹⁹

In Lysons' *Cheshire*, published in 1810, there are the following remarks on page 606:—

“A glove is hung out at St. Peter's church fourteen days before the commencement of each fair, and till its conclusion, being twenty-nine days, during which time non-freemen are allowed to trade within the city, but little business is transacted before the commencement of the fairs. It is not improbable, that the glove might allude originally to what was considered as the staple trade of the city; in corroboration of which it may be observed, that at the Midsummer Show a glove was formerly delivered by the wet-glovers to the mayor, as a part of their homage, and to this day it is not unusual for the glovers to present the mayor with a pair of gloves on his election.”

Before we leave the Chester Hand for others, we may note another curious use of it in the City.

Canon Morris, in his *Chester in the Plantagenet and Tudor Reigns*, p. 428, prints an extract from the municipal records, as follows:—

“1573, Roger Lea, Mayor, it is commanded that from hensforth non' shall sell any ale, within this Citie, above a halfpenny a quart, and the same quart wherein they sell it, to be filled full up to the topp, and to be seen full of such as shall have it, and the pott allwaies to remaine without a lidd; and when th'ale is clensed and of a nyght and a daie old, every of theyme sellings the same ale shall put out the signs of a hand made of woode, hangynge at thend of a wand, out at

¹⁹ Vol. 1, p. 371. The square brackets indicate the alterations made by Helsby in 1882 in the wording of the original edition.

some windor in the house, openly to be seen, there to remayne still, and not to be taken in, so longe as any ale in the said house is to be sold, and duringe the same tyme, non to be said naye to have a quart of ale for ob[olus=halfpenny] neyther within nor without, requyring the same as aforesaid, upon payne to forfeit for every tyme beinge contrary, vi^s viii^d."

Mr. Franklin H. Williams, of Chester, kindly informed me that about twenty years ago he purchased from a dealer's shop in Watergate Row, an interesting wooden hand, which he presented to the Grosvenor Museum, and which is here for you to see to-night. It is a representation of a glove, and consists of two portions, one being the hand part and the other being the cuff or wrist portion which is fixed to the former. They are carved in wood. The wrist portion has upon it a row of oval projections, and has a hole through it, from which, possibly, it was suspended. The glove is still covered in parts with paint. Mr. Williams takes it to be a sign which hung before the shop of some Chester glover. It occurred to me, before I saw it, that it might well be one of the wooden hands which had to be hung out of the windows of ale sellers, in accordance with the order of 1573. Mr. J. H. E. Bennett has, however, shown me a letter from Mr. W. M. Myddelton, of Woodhall Spa, Lincoln, in which that gentleman states that it is nothing else but a representation in wood of the crest of the Myddelton family, some of whom resided in Chester, and that this is so is shown by the fact that the hand stands upon a wreath, which is what the wrist portion really represents. I cannot feel very great confidence, however, in this view.

Mr. Frank Simpson, writing in the *Chester Courant* of 15th January, 1913, gives the following information about other gloves displayed in Chester:—

“The glove at St. Peter’s Church was not the only one hung out in Chester; I well remember, as a boy, seeing a glove hang from the ceiling of the Row at the angle of Eastgate-street and Bridge-street. This was the emblem of the Chester Glovers’ Guild, or Company, although it did not form part of its arms or crest. The shop in front of which the glove used to be displayed was occupied by a Mr. Ffoulkes, glover. He was the last of the Chester glovers who actually made gloves. His father resided in ‘Gloverstone,’ the actual house being that lately known by the name of the ‘Royal Standard,’ and forming the south-west corner of Castle-street. This house is marked on Lavaux’s plan of the city as being occupied by Robert Ffoulkes. At the Chester Midsummer Show a glove was formerly presented by the wet glovers to the Mayor, as part of their homage. The Glovers’ Company is still in existence, although there is not a single member who follows the occupation by which name the company is known. A little way down Eastgate-street another glove was hung out. This was suspended from a crown, and formed the sign of the licensed house still known as the ‘Crown and Glove.’ The sign is still to be seen, but the glove is different in design from what was formerly there.”

The Liverpool Hand.

There was also a Hand exhibited in Liverpool, but not a great deal of information is available about this.

In the Holt and Gregson MSS. in the Public Library, vol. i., 91-5 (late 18th and early 19th century), after a reference to “the protection afforded to individuals from arrests, during the fair and a certain number of days both before and after the limited time allowed for the Fair—& by which privilege those who come from a distance had the security of being exempted from arrest, having sufficient time both to come and return to their own homes back in safety,” the following statement is made:—

"The invitation of strangers may be lastly traced from the symbol still exhibited upon the top of the Exchange, usually placed on the *north eastern corner*, a Glove as it is sometimes called, or rude imitation of a hand shaped in wood—as much as to say—'come hither under the protection of my friendly hand here stretched out to welcome the stranger.'"

Mr. Brooke, in his *History of Liverpool* in 1775 to 1800 (written about 1852), p. 113, says:—

"The Liverpool Fair . . . was held . . . near the Exchange or Town Hall on the 25th of July and 11th of November, and on ten days previously and subsequently. . . . A hand, carved in wood, was exhibited on the front of that edifice, during the days on which the fair was held; a custom which is still kept up."

Sir James Picton in his *Memorials of Liverpool* (1878, vol. II., p. 26) states:—

"For ten days before and after the fair protection from arrest was secured within the sacred precincts marked by these stones for all persons coming to the fair on lawful business. . . . The indication of this little Alsatia was a huge hand thrust out in front of the Town-Hall, as in the act of blessing or as a sign of protection. The practice was continued down to the time of the Municipal Reform Act."

Stonehouse's *Streets of Liverpool* (circa 1870), p. 54, has the following:—

"The memory of (the fairs) till lately was kept up by the exhibition of a hand or glove in front of the Town-Hall to indicate 'protection' during fair-time from arrest to any person by warrant issued from the local court."

In the *History of the Liverpool Directories*, p. 15, Mr. G. T. Shaw tells us that from 1818 to 1865 the following appeared at the beginning of the "Annals" in Gore's Directory of Liverpool:—

"Liverpool Fair-days are 25th July and 11th November. Ten days before and ten days after each Fair-day, a hand is

exhibited in front of the Town Hall which denotes protection, during which time no person going or coming to the said Town on business connected with the Fair, can be arrested for debt within the liberties.

“In 1867 the entry became ‘was exhibited’ and has so continued.”

Mr. Touzeau, who states in his *Rise and Progress of Liverpool*, pp. 186 and 385, that the Hand was exhibited at the *south-east* corner of the top of the Town Hall for ten days before and after each fair, tells me that his authority is vol. 5 of the *Okill MSS.*, sec. xix, and points out that Okill was doubtless an eye-witness of the custom.

The Liverpool Hand has, unfortunately, disappeared.

Various Hands

The following references to Hands or Gloves of the same kind elsewhere may be of interest :—

“At several towns in England it has been the custom from time immemorial to announce a fair by hoisting a huge glove upon a prominent place. . . . The explanation has been offered, especially in the case of Chester, that the glove was selected as the sign of the fair because it was a principal article of trade. This is, however, scarcely satisfactory when extended to the other places where the usage is observed.”

The writer then refers to the passage in the *Speculum Saxonicum*, and proceeds :—

“The glove therefore was the king’s glove, the earliest form of royal charter, the original ‘sign-manual.’ ”²⁰

²⁰ Extract from “A Chapter on Gloves,” by I. S. Leadam, *The Antiquary*, vol. 2, July-Dec., 1880, page 6.

MACCLESFIELD

"A large glove was always suspended from the outside of the window of the town-hall during the holding of the fair; and as long as the glove was so suspended, everyone was free from arrest within the township, and, I have heard, while going and returning to and from the fair."—*Notes and Queries*, 1 Ser., vii., 559.

It is noteworthy that Macclesfield, like Chester, had its Guild Merchant, which was granted by Prince Edward on 29th May, 1261.²¹

EXETER

"Exeter Lammas Fair.—The Charter for this Fair is perpetuated by a glove of immense size, stuffed and carried through the city on a very long pole, decorated with ribbons, flowers, etc., and attended with music, parish beadles and the nobility. It is afterwards placed on the top of the Guildhall and then the Fair commences: on the taking down of the glove the fair terminates."—Hone's *Every Day Book*.

". . . . the carrying of the glove at Lammas Fair, in Exeter, is still continued, and I witnessed the ancient ceremony this morning (19 July) [1898]. The simple procession started from Exe Bridge at 11.30 a.m., the old proclamation written on vellum, and dating from certainly so long ago as A.D. 1322, being first read. Preceded by a side drum and a fife, the huge glove, hoisted upon a pole some fifteen feet high, was carried right through the main thoroughfare of this city. The pole is of considerable antiquity and is painted, striped something after the fashion of a barber's pole. The old glove is about eighteen inches high, made of leather, and pipe-clayed annually for the display. Under it were tied garlands of flowers. Held aloft, the glove was thus carried to the site of the old East Gate at the other end of the city, where the proclamation was again read. Then the little *cortège* returned to the front of our ancient Guildhall, where the proclamation was duly read a third time, after which we

²¹ Ormerod's *Cheshire* (Helsby), iii., 741.

all took off our hats whilst 'God save the Queen' was rendered as a solo on the fife. Three hearty cheers followed, and then the glove, its garlands and the pole were solemnly hoisted by a cord to the top of the Guildhall's projecting Queen Elizabethan portico. There it was secured to the battlements, at a bevel, leaning over the grand old Roman thoroughfare, and there it will remain until noon on Friday next (22 July), when the (now quite obsolete) fair will close. According to tradition, however, Lammas Fair commenced to-morrow (20 July)."—*Notes and Queries*, vol. 9, 1898, p. 153.

"The Phœnician monuments are said to have had sculptured on them an arm and *hand held up* with an inscription graven thereon. (See *Gesenius and Lee*.) If, as stated by your correspondents, in the article referred to, the glove at fairs 'denotes protection,' and indicates 'that parties frequenting the fair are exempt from arrest,' it is at least a remarkable coincidence. The Phœnicians were the earliest merchants to the west of England that we have any account of; can any connexion be traced historically between the Phœnician traffic and the modern practice of setting up a hand, or glove, at fairs? I well remember the feelings of awe and wonder with which I gazed when taken in childhood to see 'the glove brought in' and placed over the guildhall of my native city (Exeter) at the commencement of the Lammas Fair. Has the glove been associated with this fair from its commencement? and if not, how far back can its use be traced? The history of the fair is briefly this: it existed before the Norman Conquest, and was a great mart of business; the tolls had belonged to the Corporation, but King John took one-half and gave them to the prior of St. Nicholas. Henry VIII sold the fair with the Priory; and anno second and third of Philip and Mary it was made over to the corporation, who have ever since been lords of the fair. (Izacke's *Memorials*, p. 19; Olivers' *History of Exeter*, pp. 83, 158, &c.)"—*Notes and Queries*, vol. 8, 1853, p. 421.

BARNSTAPLE

"At Barnstaple, a large glove, decked with dahlias, is hung out from the window of the Quay Hall, the oldest building of

the city, and while it hangs the fair is going on, and when it is withdrawn the fair is at an end."—Extract from "Gloves," *All the Year Round*, vol. 9, Feb.-Aug., 1863, page 425.

HONITON

"There is no reverence paid in these modern gatherings to old-fashioned ways and ancient picturesque customs, but in some places these are still observed with punctilious exactness. The quaint custom of 'proclaiming the fair' at Honiton, in Devonshire, is observed every year, the town having obtained the grant of a fair from the Lord of the Manor so long ago as 1257. The fair still retains some of the picturesque characteristics of bygone days. The town crier, dressed in old-world uniform, and carrying a pole decorated with gay flowers and surmounted by a large gilt model of a gloved hand, publicly announces the opening of the fair as follows: 'Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! The Fair's begun, the glove is up. No man can be arrested till the glove is taken down.' The pole and glove remain displayed until the end of the fair. Hot coins were then thrown amongst the children."—Ditchfield, *Vanishing England*, p. 360.

SOUTHAMPTON

"From the church-yard (St. Mary's Church), a road not very wide, and bordered on either hand by a deep and muddy ditch, leads to the ancient mill called the Chapel mill. In this road, inconvenient as it is, an annual fair is held on Trinity Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. This fair is opened by the mayor and bailiffs, with much ceremony, on the preceding Saturday afternoon. The mayor erects a pole with a large glove fixed on the top of it, near the miller's house; and the bailiff then takes possession of the fair, as chief magistrate in its precinct during the fair, and invites the mayor and his suite to a collation in his tent. He appoints a guard of halberdiers, who keep the peace by day, and watch the fair by night. During the fair, no person can be arrested for debt within its precincts. On the Wednesday at noon, the mayor dissolves the fair by taking down the pole and glove, or rather ordering it to be taken down; which till lately was done by the young men of the town, who fired at it

with single balls, till it was destroyed, or they were tired with the sport. Probably it formerly was a mark for the less dangerous dexterity of the young archers."—Englefield, *Walk through Southampton*, 1805, p. 75.

NEWPORT (ISLE OF WIGHT)

"To the list of markets at which a Glove was, or is, hung out, may be added Newport, in the Isle of Wight."—*Notes and Queries*, vol. 8, 1853, p. 136.

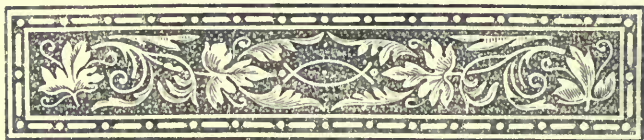
PORTSMOUTH

"During the annual fair at Portsmouth, locally known as the 'Free Mart,' a gilded glove was displayed above the entrance to the White House, or gaol, in the High Street."—*Notes and Queries*, vol. 9, 1898, p. 375.

GOLDSITHNEY

"At Goldsithney, near Penzance, a large fair is, or was, held on August 5th and there was a tradition that this fair was originally held at Sithney near Helston, and that some persons ran off with the Glove, by the suspension of which to a pole the fair was, by its Charter, held, and carried it off to this village, where the said Glove was hung out for many years at the time of the fair."—*Kentish Note Book*, vol. ii., p. 146.

"On the 5th of August, St. James' day (old style), a fair is held here, which was originally held in the church-town of Sithney near Helston. In olden time, the good *St. Perran the Little* gave to the wrestlers in this parish a glove as the prize, and the winner of the glove was permitted to collect the market toll on the day of the feast, and to appropriate the money to his own use. The winner of the glove lived in the church-town of Sithney, and for long years the right of holding the fair remained undisputed. At length the miners of Goldsithney resolved to contest the prize, and they won it, since which time the fair has been held in that village, they paying to the poor of the parish of Sithney one shilling as compensation."—*Popular Romances of the West of England*, R. Hunt, 3rd ed., p. 444. [I am indebted to the Editor for this reference.]



Two Letters by the Beverley Family of Huntington, near Chester

BY JAMES HALL

(A short Paper read 17th December, 1912)



IN the time of Queen Elizabeth there lived at Huntington, an outlying part of the parish of St. Oswald's, Chester, a gentleman named GEORGE BEVERLEY, who for his military service in Ireland was knighted on 8th May, 1604. He had married a daughter of Edward Cludd of Oulton, Salop, Esq. The baptisms of two sons of that marriage are recorded in St. Oswald's register; one in 1596 and the other in 1597. His daughter, Frances, became the wife of Richard Browne of Upton, gent.¹

Sir George Beverley was buried in Chester Cathedral on 8th August, 1618. By his will, proved 4th October, 1620, he bequeathed to his son and heir, LENNOX BEVERLEY, the unexpired leases of his

¹ *Visitation of Cheshire in 1613*, Record Society, Vol. LVIII., p. 47; and the *Cheshire Sheaf for 1891*, p. 178.

manors, messuages, and lands. The late Mr. Earwaker printed that will fully in the *Cheshire Sheaf* for 14th October, 1891.

I.

George Beverley's letter, dated 10th March, 1597 [-8], was addressed to the "R^t Worshipp^t M^r Thomas ffletcher Maior of her Ma^{ties} Cittie of Chester"; and was written at London; apparently from the Commissariat Department, relating, as it does, to the supply of provision for soldiers transported to the seat of War in Ireland. The original document is preserved in the *Letter-Book* of the Corporation Records in the Muniment Room of Chester Town Hall. It is No. 588 in Vol. II., p. 308, and reads as follows:—

"It maye please yo^r Wo^r:

The Lorde Treasuror by his letter dothe make yt Appere vnto you The present wante of Bread Corne w^{ch} her Ma^{ties} Garrison At Carrickfergus dothe stande in nede of, wherein his Lō[rdship] is resolved to vse your Care and traveill [*i.e.*, diligence] for their relief wth the greatest expediçon.

"I therefore haue thought yt my Partie to praie your wo^r to haue A speciall Care of his Lo. direction in this behalfe, Wherein in my opinion, It shall be good you do pforme the same in all secresie, As thoughe the proviçon weare ffor yo^r self, or for suche as you shall emploie. The quantitie Required by my Lord is not greate, yet it is good you give it out, you are to provide and shippe no more but 80 qrters. If the scarsitie of this kind of Graine be so greate, as I hope in God it is not, then Rather then ffaile you must

Require ffor her Ma^{ty}s service suche as have stoore or any Porçon of that Kynde to deliu'[er] everie man A parcell to make up this proporçon. Consider of the Gentillmen dwelling nere the Cittie [of Chester], that are Come to lye wthin the Cittie, ffor they are like to sell you Wheate. And take Care they sett on an extraordenarie nomb^r of thrashers, because the expediçon of this matter is much looked After.

"Also it maye please you to be presentlie provided of A Good Barck to lye in Readines, where they Maye Make sayle wth the ffirst Wynde, And not to staie for springtydes.

"If I should Appointe any of my Servaunts to Attend you in this matter, It wolde make to[o] great a showe, And therefore I do fforbeare, praing to vse yo^r owne discretion. It is good you do Sende A Measure wth thos[e] that Receive the Graine into their Chardg to transporte it to Advoide all questions on the other syde. And Cause the M^r of the Barcke to Receive his lading by Indent[u]re and enter the same wth the Costomer [Custom officer]. And retorne good Certifficats of the Deliverie to suche as are auctorisèd to be Clarck of the Stoore or Victuallo^r At Carrickfergus. The Reste I leave to yo good Consideraçon, And I will praie to God ffor yo^r healthe [*i.e.*, salvation].

"And I will vse the beste Means I Cann to Supplie the Poorte of Chester wth some Rie ffrom hence, or ffrom other Partes, If I Maye knowe it will please the Countrie [*i.e.*, neighbourhood].

"Written At london the xth of Marche 1597 in the Afternowne

Yc^r Wc^r all power to vse,

GEO: BEUERLEY."

"Thes to be deliu'd. Haste post Haste."

II.

LENNOX BEVERLEY'S LETTER TO RANDLE HOLME, ESQ.,
MAYOR OF CHESTER 1644.

LENNOX BEVERLEY of Huntington, gent., was twice married. His first wife, Elizabeth, dying young, was buried at St. Oswald's Chester, on 17th August, 1619. His second wife, also named Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Henry Birkenhead of Backford, Esqr., bore him six sons and four daughters.² She died on 19th January, 1656, and was buried at Backford. Her husband, Lennox Beverley, who died 5th April, 1660, was also buried at Backford; where a tablet on the church wall still remains to their memory.

Lennox Beverley, who lived through the times of the early Stuart kings and the Commonwealth period, took no active part in the Civil War that broke out in 1642; probably, because he was then about 50 years of age; although his sons entered the army in the King's service. But before the rumbling of cannon was heard on Rowton Moor; and before Chester city was in the throes of the great siege; Lennox Beverley had contributed largely both in money and kind in aid of the Royalist cause; and thus it was, that the second year of the War found him in very reduced circumstances.

His letter, addressed "*To the wo^r: Randle Holme Esqr. Maior off the Cittie of Chester,*" and dated "*Huntington 10 ffebr: 1643*" [-4] implies that further demands on his goods had just been issued by the City authorities.

The letter reads thus:—

"Maye it please yow: it is trew: I tooke backe
ffrom Selbye one ffeild of [*i.e.*, for] 7^{ll} [£7] pte of my

² *Cheshire Funeral Certificates*, Record Society, Vol. VI., pp. 17-18.

Land Liable to his Ma^{tie} for 3 yeares. I hadd noe grounds In my [owne] hands, In regard I hadd noe Cattle. But when my sonnes entredd Into the Kings service I tooke the same [field] ffor their horses, and theire servants synce which tyme to this p^resent, I haue hadd more or lesse. besides, I hadd at one tyme for a weeks space, at the least, 29 ho[rse] and some tymes above, of My Lord Capewells [*i.e.*, Arthur Lord Capell's] troope: it hath Cost me v^{ll} [£5] In a morn- inge at the Butchers besides my owne p^rovitiō: I haue hadd latelie off foote, aboue 20, all which I haue willinglie received and Depted with full Content: which hath beene noe wronge to the Contrie, nor I no annoieaunce to my Neighbours. his Ma^{tie} hath a 100^{ll} [£100] ayeare of my meanes, 40^{ll} [£40] a yeare I paye In cheif rent, under nomine p^rænaes: which at our lady Daye next wil be 60^{ll} [£60] vnpayde. In regarde my Tennant Cannot vent [*i.e.*, sell] his Com^rodities nor paye me rent: I Cannot pcure money on any termes, In these distracted tymes: I haue but a few household goods of smale value: wherevppō I am driuen Into Debt, and when all was at the best I hadd but 24^{ll} [£24] a yeare, to Mayntayne my self and familie.

"The p^romises Considered, I referre My selfe to you^r worshipps fauorable Censure, restinge at you^r service,

LENNOX BEUERLEY."

"Huntington
10 febr: 1643."

The above letter in autograph, together with two other MS. documents, were kindly presented to the Library of the Chester Archæological Society in the year 1912 by Mr. Morys Parry of Chester and Shrewsbury. They are now preserved in Cabinet Press 20, Drawer E, in the Grosvenor Museum Library, Chester.



Items of Expenditure from the 16th Century Accounts of the Painters, Glaziers, Embroider- ers, and Stationers' Company, with special reference to the "Shepherds' Play"

BY JOSEPH C. BRIDGE,

M.A., D. Mus., Oxon et Dunelm, F.S.A., F.R.C.O.,
Organist of Chester Cathedral,
Professor of Music in the University of Durham

(Read 18th February, 1913)



AT first sight, these four trading organisations rolled into one seem an incongruous mixture; but it is not so in reality, for the first three had a common bond in the art and science of Heraldry, which was much used in painting, embroidery, and stained glass; and although they formed but one company, every member kept to his own particular craft, and it was specially laid down that "noe brother shall intermeddle in either other trades or occupacon . . . as a painter not to use either glasing, Imbrotheringe¹ or stacioninge, neither the Glaseor either paintinge Imbrothering or stacioning," etc.

The first three Companies had been amalgamated some time before the Stationers joined them.²

¹ We meet with Imbrauderers, Embroderers, and Brotherers.

² They had joined by 1567 as this Ledger shows, but I doubt if they had joined much earlier than this. There never could have been many Stationers. See *post*, p. 178, for the year 1590.

Some fifty years ago the late Mr. Thomas Hughes read a paper on Chester Booksellers before our Society, and gave some information respecting this Company and some extracts from the books.³

The volume I am about to refer to is, however, of an earlier date and is the oldest possessed by this Company, and, be it added, much more difficult to decipher, for the expenditure is, for the most part, in a very bad handwriting.

It is a book $11\frac{1}{2}$ by $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and has been, for the most part, put together in 1584 and bound and rebound in later years. It is prefaced by a beautifully written page of capitals (added in the eighteenth century) as follows:—

“BE IT REMEMBERED
BY THIS
WORSHIPFUL COMPANY
THAT THE
CHARTER
BELONGING THERETO IS PRESERVED IN
THE
BRITISH MUSEUM
AMONG THE
MSS
OF OUR DECEASED BROTHER
RANDLE HOLME.”

Then follows a memorandum:—

“Anno a Natu: Saluatoris nostri

1596

Wheat was sould in this yeare

for above xl shillings the Busshell

³ See Part V. of the Old Series of our *Journal* published in 1858. Mr. Earwaker also exhibited these books before the Society, and references to the Company may be found in Mr. Henry Taylor's paper on our "City Companies," Vol. V., N.S.; Mr. Frank Simpson's paper on the "Barber-Surgeons'" Company in Vol. XVIII., N.S.; the same writer's paper in the present Volume; and Morris' *Chester*, p. 409.

Rhy at xxxvij^s the Busshell
 Oates at xx^s the Busshell
 Sack at x^d the quart
 Gascoigne whyte & claret at viij^d the quart
 Good ale at iij^d & iiij^d the quart
 Oatmeale Groats at v^d the quart
 Fleash, butter mylk verey deare

Thomas Chaloner

1597

Rhy at xxi bus[hell] at 'alhalar tyde."

Then come the Oaths, Orders, and Ordinances⁴ of the Company; instructions "for others and straingers"; names of "Apprentices admitted," etc.; all excellently transcribed, and there can be no doubt that many of these opening pages were written by Thomas Chaloner of that family which is said to have "greatly affected heraldry" at the end of the sixteenth century.

Chaloner was a painter, a poet, a member of Lord Derby's company of players, an antiquary, and Ulster King of Arms. The first Randle Holme was apprenticed to him and he married Holme's widow.

When Chaloner joined the Company it is probable that he was asked to "write up" and arrange this book. The following minutes are in his own handwriting:—

"1584

Memorandum In Anno 1584 M^r Robert Brerwoode Maior of the Cittye the vjth daie of October, Thomas Chaloner was made a freeman and the vjth of October he was sworn a brother to the occupacone and laid doune for his ffyne iiij^{li} whereof he payd xx^s wight was distributed the same day amongst the Company & uppon Thursdaie being the next daye after hee made his dynner to the said Companye James

⁴ Similar regulations have already been printed in our *Journal* in connection with other Companies, so there is no need to give them here.

(See for example Mr. Simpson's paper in the present Volume.)

Banester and Robert Leche weare Aldermen Edward Dobey and John Deusburye Steuards and uppon St Luks Day next after Edward Dobye and Thom^s Chaloner weare chosen Stewards.

xx^s 1584

Tho^s Chaloner

vijth of October

And besyde the sayde Thomas Chaloner gave to the Companye A^o 1587 bothe Coloures and the making of a Banner with the foure Sundrie Coats Helmes Mantells and Creasts well worth fyve nobles.

xxxiiij^s iiij^d

In "Charges layd out for the Companye this year 1584" we find :—

"In pris for paper to write upp the other end ordered in the begynninge of this Booke

j^d

For paper sett in this booke whearine are the Othes, Orders, and Ordinance of y^e Company

j^d

The items of expenditure of such a Company as this must always be interesting, but in this case they are especially so, for they include the monies spent in preparations for the "Shepherds' Play," and thus throw a valuable side-light on the stage management of one of our Chester Miracle Plays.

This Company had always undertaken to produce this special play.

In the earliest *Banes* we find :—

"Paynters Glasiars & broderers^s in fere [company]
Have taken on theym with full good chere
That the Sheppards play then shall appere
And that with right good will."

In the later *Banes* we have :—

"The appearinge Angell and starr upon Christes beirth
To sheapeardes poore, of base & lowe degree,
You painters & glasiors decke out with all meirth,
And see that *Gloria in Excelsis* be songe merelye.

^s This is a Fifteenth Century *Banes*, and we should not expect to find any mention of *Stationers*. In the later *Banes* they were probably omitted, with the Embroiderers, for lack of space.

Fewe wordes in that pageante makes meirth truely,
For all that the Alter had to stand uppon,
Was Glorie to God above, and peace one Earth to Man."

We are told also in Kings' *Vale Royal* that in July, 1577,

"The Earl of Derby, the Lord Strange with many others came to this City and were honourably received by the Maior and Citizens, the Shepherds' Play was played at the High Crosse, with other triumphs on the Roods Eye."⁶

This play (which was undoubtedly by a local playwright and was the most popular of the series) also got tacked on to the Midsummer Show, and the Shepherds walked on stilts to add greater interest to the procession.⁷

I now give the principal items of interest from the Company's Ledger. Much must be omitted.

1567-1568⁸

For Whytsone Playes the yeare of oure Lord God a
thousand fyve hundreth thrye score & eyght then Mayor of
the Citie of Chester M^r Ry^d Dutton li s. d.

For the rest of a room at our first meeting⁹ ij

To the shareman for the dressyng of oure
skynnes¹⁰ viij

⁶ I believe this to be the last performance of the play, and as it was by command of the Mayor I presume he paid for it, for it does not appear in the Company's Accounts. In these Accounts we read of the play being performed in 1567, 1572, and 1575, and the "Annals of Chester," published in the *Cheshire Sheaf*, give 1560, 1566, 1571, and 1574. Dates are never a strong point with these old scribes, and the old method of reckoning the commencement of the year often led to confusion.

⁷ This fact is made known to us for the first time by these Accounts. Was the idea of the Shepherds walking on stilts taken from France? See *post*, p. 173, for an amusing entry about these stilts.

⁸ 1568 was first written and then cancelled.

⁹ Every member "paid his shot" at a Meeting. This was generally a levy of one penny per member, and if the combined pence were not sufficient the debit balance was, as here, carried to the general account. The Company had no regular place for meeting until they joined the Barbers' Company in hiring the Phoenix Tower, see *post*, p. 190.

¹⁰ For their hoods.

To Cryss ^r [Christopher] talyor for makyng	li.	s.	d.
of our huddes ¹¹			xii
For our horses at the rydyng of the Banes			xvi
To the priseners ¹²			j
To Newton for rydyng of the Banes			j
Spent at Thomas Imsons to speak with M ^r			
Hankey for Shepheard Boyes			ij
For paper to coppye the oreygenall ¹³			j
At our first rehearse at oure Aldermans			xvj
Anendst Ric ^d Garrett for rest of a shote ¹⁴			v
Spent at Ric ^d Halewoods about the hyrrryng			
[hiring] of the Carryge ¹⁵			iiij
Spent at M ^r Hankeys about M ^r Bryd [Bird]			vj
Spent at Master Hankeys at the rehearsee			
the same day			v
Spent at our Aldermans when we rehearsed			
before M ^r Mayor ¹⁶			ij vj
Spent at our Aldermans the first tyme we			
mett in the Common Hall			xx

¹¹ "Yet in London amongst the graver sort (I mean the liveries of Companies), remaineth a memory of the hoods of old time worn by their predecessors: these hoods were worn, the roundlets upon their heads, the skirts to hang behind in their necks to keep them warm, the tippet to lie on their shoulder, or to wind about their necks; these hoods were of old time made in colours according to their gowns, which were of two colours, as red & blue, or red & purple, murrey, or as it pleased their Masters & Wardens to appoint to the Companies."—Stow's *London*.

¹² The Banes were proclaimed at the Bars, the Castle, and the Northgate. The wretched prisoners confined in these places were allowed certain privileges and could walk outside to hear the Banes read.

¹³ The original Play book. Possibly the one possessed by the Corporation containing all the plays, or perhaps the "Shepherds' Play" belonging to the Company.

¹⁴ It is curious how the word "Shot" (O.E. *sceot*—a tax or levy) lost its original meaning and became synonymous with a meeting or carouse. A document belonging to the Chester Corporation speaks of "a shott or drinking." See Morris' *Chester*, p. 381.

When the mourners at a Welsh funeral were too poor to bear the expenses of it, a collection was made outside the house and was called a "shot." See *Border Counties, Byegones*, August, 1899.

¹⁵ The carriage or "pageant" on which the play was performed.

¹⁶ It was the Mayor's duty to take care that the actors were efficient.

	li	s.	d.
Spent for borrying & conveying a naked child ¹⁷			ij
For mogges [mugs for drinking]	ij		vj
For painting of our ox and asse, and our pye in the Common Hall ¹⁸			iiij
For a bests baly [beast's belly] to diner ¹⁹			x
For a wysshing pudding ²⁰			j ^{ob}
For copying our origenall			xij
Spent at John Cocks to borrow bottells ²¹			ij
To butter to the play			vij

¹⁷ A small child dressed in gay ribands and sitting amidst a bower of green rode upon a horse in the Midsummer procession. Each Company seems to have had one, and the Accounts contain dozens of references to this custom, the origin of which is obscure.

¹⁸ The painting was probably on canvas and was intended to represent the manger at Bethlehem.

¹⁹ There are other similar entries and they evidently mean a kind of haggis, *i.e.*, the heart, liver, etc.

²⁰ What pudding was this? I am inclined to think that it refers to the previous item, as the intestines of an animal were called "puddings," and an untidy person was said to "have his puddings about his heels." Or does it refer to a sweet pudding? Our Christmas plum pudding is said to have come in with the House of Hanover, and everyone in the house is expected to "wish" and to stir it when made. The act of "wishing" is very old Folk-lore (*cf.*, wishing-wells), and it seems possible from this item, that it may have got grafted on to our Christmas pudding from earlier times.

²¹ No doubt the old wooden flasks with stoppers, such as shepherds used. Ordinary bottles would have been easily procured.

Pastor I.: "Now to wete our mouths tyme were
This flagette will I tame, yf thou rede us

Pastor III.: And of this bottill nowe will I bibbe
For heare is but of the beste."

The first shepherd's boy presenting his offering to Our Saviour at the manger says:

"Now Lord for to geve thee have I nothinge
Neither goulde, silver, bruche nor ringe
Nor no rich robes mete for a Kinge
That I have heare in store:
But that yt lacks a stoppell
Take thou heare my well [fayer] bottill
For it will hold a good pottill
In faith, I can geve thee no more."

	li	s.	d.
For chesse [cheese] ²²			v
To nayles			ijj
To a Corde ²³			ij
For Whystells ²⁴			j
For pynnes			j
poyntes ²⁵			j
Spent att Rich ^d Halewoods upon Whitsun Sunday in drink			iiij
Spent the same day upon the Shepherd boyes			ij
To brydde [bread]			vj
To Crab fysshes ²⁶			ij
To mending Trowes Cote ²⁷			ij
For copying a y'sell [an epistle or letter]			iiij
For Potes of ale at Ric ^d Halewoods when we dressed our player & when we made our caps and cote			vj
For brede for the playe			iiij

²² Pastor II.:

"Here is bred this daie was baken;
Onyans, garlicke and leickes
Butter that bought was in Blacon,
And greene cheese that will greese your cheekes."

Halliwell says "green cheese—cream cheese." Other authorities consider that it means fresh cheese and made of skim milk. *cf.*, "The moon is made of green cheese."

²³ To nail up the canvas scenery.

²⁴ Third Boy [at the manger]:

"O noble childe of thee [?]
Alas! what have I for thee
Save only my pipe?
Elles trewlye nothinge.
Were I in the rocks or in
I coulde make of this pippe
That all the woode shoulde ringe
And quiver, as yt were."

²⁵ Laces.

²⁶ Perhaps a Parkgate commodity, for shell fish could not have carried far in those days.

²⁷ Each of the shepherds had a boy under him. Their chief assistant, however (who also had a boy under him), was Trowe or Trowle—a ragged, impertinent, strong young fellow who could "saunce" the shepherds and wrestle with them. His appearance with his "good dog Dotinel," otherwise "Sillybilly," must have created great laughter. Trowle was, no doubt, the "making" of the play.

	li	s.	d.
Payd for them that puled the caryge [pulled the carriage] ²⁸			vj
To the viii pullers of the caryge	iiij	-	
To the Mynstrell			x
To Joseff			x
To meat for the Ass ²⁹			viiij
Towards the fechyng of him			iiij
For horse bread ³⁰ to the harness horse			iiij
To John Hutton for a q[u]arter of vele			xvj
a quarter of corse vele			viiij
a beasts belly and calves fette			viiij
a myd calf ³¹ and a nox tonge ³²			viiij
a calves head			iiij
a grene ³³			iiij
a Tuppes head ³⁴			ij

²⁸ The "pageant" or "carriage" was sometimes drawn by horses and sometimes pulled by men.

²⁹ It seems that this animal must have been hired for use in the "Manger" scene, thus superseding the canvas representation, or possibly Mary rode on it in procession.

³⁰ Made of beans and pease by the bakers of the city. A baker was prosecuted, *temp.* Richard III., for selling horse bread deficient in weight and quality.

³¹ The "m" is written in a much later hand over what appears to be "k," and kyd calf=a young calf. But the later scribe is right. "Mid-calf" is a well-known Lancashire dish similar to lamb's fry, and the cost corresponds.

³² Primus Pastor :

"My secchell [satchel] to shake oute
To shepheardes am I not ashamed ;
And this tonge pared round aboute
With my tonge it shall be atamed."

[another version]

"And that is in my sachell to shake out
To shepheardes am I not ashamed,
This oxe tonge, pared round about,
For your tooth it shall be attamed."

³³ Some green vegetable. Very few were grown at that time.

³⁴ Tercius Pastor :

"Lo! heares a sheepes head sawsed in ale,
And a grayne to lay on the greene,
And sower mylke my wife hath ordered
A noble supper as well is seene."

	li	s.	d.
ale at John Cocks			iiij
To our Ladyes wayge			iiij
To iiij shepherd boyes	ij	viiij	
The hyre of our carryage			iiij
A pair of & Trowe's shewes [shoes]			xvj
To Rich ^d Halewood's wyffe for xv hagays ³⁵	vij	-	
To her for bacon		vj	
To her for a calves hed		iiij	
To her for bread and ale in the morning			
To the Putters & to the Mynstrelle & at our supper		iiij	-
For p'bolying [parboiling] of our garbyge ³⁶		xij	
For a q ^r of lambs to John Hutton		x	
To five haggassys to Randolph Bales wife	ij	ij	
To a garnishe for the lyttell chyld		ij	
For a pottel of beer at our aldermans		ij	
To the Mynstrelle uppon Mydsomer even ³⁷		vj	
To the Prysoners at the same time		j	
To Rich ^d Halewoods wyffe for brede upon Midsomer even		viiij	
To her for drynk the same tyme	ij	viiij	
To a pottell ³⁷ of whyte wyne		vj	
For Samontt ³⁸	ij	iiij	

³⁵ and ³⁶ Or "Hagosyes," i.e., "Haggis," a "heart, lungs, liver, etc., of sheep boiled in maw with suet and oatmeal," and "garbyge" means "offal of an animal used for food" (*Oxford Dictionary*). In *Promptorium Parvulorum* we find "Garbage of Fowles—Entera," and "Gybelet—idem quod garbage" and "Gyserne of Foules—idem quod garbage." Halliwell has "Gesarne—the garbage," and quotes: "Tak the gesarne of a hare, and stampe it, and temper it with water, and gyf it to the seke mane or womane to drink."

³⁷ A "Pottill" was two quarts, therefore the wine was threepence per quart, or about the usual price in those days.

³⁸ This is the only entry referring to this fish. The old idea that salmon was so plentiful in bygone times that apprentices refused to eat it has long been exploded. There seems no reason for thinking that it was more plentiful or cheaper than now.

Unfortunately, "salmon" may mean *one* fish or *more*, so that this item is no guide as to cost, but at that period a salmon must be sold *whole*, so it was not less than *one*. The fishmonger was not permitted to cut it up for sale. See *Morris*, p. 424.

	li	s.	d.
To the Eldest sheppett ⁸⁹		ij	
To the Second sheppett			xx
To the third sheppett			xx
To Trow		ij	
To Trowes boy			vj
To Tow sheppetts for goying upon Mid- somer even			x
To Tow sheppets when the Banes were rydden			x
To hym that rydeth [readeth] the oryginall			xij
To the Angel			vj
The sum is	iiij	ij	vj
The hole sum of the Whytsone playes and all the charge of oure Occupacon from Saynt Lukes Daye untill the v th of July is	iiij	ij	vj
Wyche is for every brother		v	v
Whereof Thomas Poule is bated in his part			iiij
Mem: That Ric: Calye ys indebted to the Occupacyon for Whytsone playes		v	v
Due to him for income of the brydren [brethren]		ij	ix
He is behind for charges upon Saynt Lukes Day			iiij

Grave and gay alternate in the next list of expenses:—

1568

At the Feste of Sannte Luke lasste passed Midsome Showe
no Whitson playes.

	li	s.	d.
at oure brodear Wetts dinner for ii pottells of sake			x
The menstrell at our broder Watts Dinner		vij	
Payd to our Sister pilline the fosste of alle			x
To oure Sistear Pilline the rest that [is due]			x
laid oute for ye menstrelles at William Stevenson Wedding		iiij	

⁸⁹ The three shepherds were always represented of different ages. The importance of Trowle is seen in his pay being equal to the principal shepherd.

	li	s.	d.
lede doune for carringe of the Coffin			viiij
Spend at Mestear Meares bissiness for a bill			ij
Upone Midsomer nighte at oure Alldermans	v		vj
The same feste medsomar nighte in wyne			viiij
Given to Rycharde Dawbye and the myn- strelles for midsomer nyghte			xiiij

1569

Midsomer Show no Whitson playe			
Anenst layd doune for a quart of sacke at our aldermanes uppon Sayntt lukes daye			vj
For entrying <u>anayon</u> [an action] uppon Crysser Buckley			ij
For a rystetyng [arresting] of him			iiij
For the iij Sheppets wayge			xviiij
a payre of gloves for the Angell			ij
To Ry ^d Cawayde [Cawood] for a stern [star] ⁴⁰			ij
For a declara[tion] for Chris ^r Buckley	ij		iiij
Spent a Thomas Massies uppon our Alder- men at the buryall of Ry ^d Halewoode			xij
Mem: Ry ^d Dobe is fyned for his absence at a meetyng the ix of Aprill ⁴¹			vj

In 1570, the Company laid down most stringent rules regarding the price of hats and caps, and also punishments for evading the rules. It is notified therefore

“That if any of the sayd companie make or cause to be wrought made or done or by any subtell means or devyse [device] devyysse [devise] or cause to be devysed to be wrought made or done, any kinds of hatt or hatts of any kynd of facyon [fashion] or making, if hit be butt playne, to any manner of p^{son} or p^{sons} within the Cytte of Chester or w^hout the sayd Citte unther [under] suche prysses or lesse than suche prysses as are hereafter and under wrytten and expressed,”

⁴⁰ The Star of Bethlehem.

⁴¹ Fines such as this constantly occur but the amounts are reduced sometimes to 4d. and 3d., and sometimes remitted.

then, for such breach of rule, 6s. 8d. must be paid and the stuff might be seized and sold.^{41a}

Here are the prices:—

	li	s.	d.
Ffurst for a hatt playne w ^h oute any work on it			vlij
a hatt w ^h a lyttell border not wrought in the tent ⁴²			xij
a hatt one payne ⁴³ wrought & a nother playne			xij
a hatt thatt ys in stryppes or paynes wrought all over			xvj
a hatt styched all over			xvj
a hatt the turffé ⁴⁴ and all styched	ij		-

^{41a} "I take it, that the use of square bonnets worn by noblemen, gentlemen, citizens and others took beginning in this realm by Henry VII., and in his time, and of further antiquity, I can see no counterfeit or other proof of use.

"Henry VIII., towards his latter reign, wore a round flat cap of scarlet or of velvet, with a brooch or jewel, and a feather; divers gentlemen, courtiers, and others did the like. The youthful citizens also took them to the new fashion of flat caps, knit of woollen yarn, black, but so light that they were obliged to tie them under their chins, for else the wind would be master over them."—Stow's *London*.

⁴² Made at home in the shop and not "wrought in the tent" at the great Midsummer fair.

⁴³ "Payne" is a "panel," or the pattern divided off by stripes, as the next item shows.

⁴⁴ This is a very uncommon word. Halliwell quotes Palsgrave's old *French-English Dictionary*, published 1530: "Turfe of a cappe, *rebras*"—Palsgrave, and "Tyrf or turvyng upon an hooode or sleve, *resolucio*"—*Promptorium Parvulorum*, 1440.

It was evident from these quotations that "turffé" meant a hat "turned up at the brim," but, in order to be certain, I brought the matter before Professor Weekly, of University College, Nottingham—a recognized authority—who says: "The word undoubtedly means the 'turned up brim of a hat in this case The origin is the Mid.-Eng. verb 'tirve,' more commonly 'terve,' to *turn* in general The word is interesting because of its solitary survival in topsy-turvy." It is amusing to see how the scribe thought the word, like a good deal of the finery of the period, was French!

a hatt Imbrauderer all over of velvet in the	li	s	d.
tente			
a hatt w ^h a border a boutte hit and a flower	iiij	vj	
in the Crowne wrought in the tente	ij	iiij	

1570

The charges for our occupacyon for the yeare of our lord god 1570.

Midsomer Show no Whitson plays.

payd to the mynstrelle uppon Saynt Lukes	li	s	d.
day at our Aldermans			xij
payd for the rest of a shotte at Ryfe [Rafe]			
Shortwoods the same day			ij
For the rest of a shonte ⁴⁵ at our Aldermans			
the same day			vj
Spent at Randall Ynces [Ince's] when the			
passage was for Chris: Byckley			iiij
Spent when Chissr Byckley sealed their			
oblygacyon			vj
For enterying anaccyon [an action] uppon			
Ry ^d Sutton			ij
for a Restyng him to the same accyon			iiij
For goying on the styltes			xij
Spent uppon Midsomer even in gud cheare	iiij	-	
to the Mynstrells the same time			xvj
for makying a declaracyon for Sutton			xij

1571

No expenditure noted, only fines.

1572

For Whitsone Playes the yeare of our Lorde God a thousande fyve hundrethe sevente and jj.

The mayre of the Cytte of Chester Master John hankye.

Whitson Playes went this year 1572 and Midsomer Show also.

[Accounts]	li	s	d.
For our horses at the rydyng of the banes			xvj
For papare			j
For ryddyng [reading] the banes			j

⁴⁵ A fresh corruption.

	li	s.	d.
For the reste of a Shonte at the fyrste			
reheresse			vj
Spende on the iiij singarse at Rondylle			
Ynces ⁴⁶			ij
For xiiij yerthen moges [mugs]	xij		-
Spende at Tomas lynecarse for the baryage			
of the cariage			vj
Pede to Doosse wyfe to garneshe the			
hagoosscys			xij
Spentte in Rychart twyssces speking for the			
Arse ⁴⁷			j
Before the generall reherse in Robert hale-			
wodes			vj
Lede done [laid down] goinge to loke for			
skynnes ⁴⁸			ij
lede done at the generaulle reherse denar	vj		-
Payde to Rogare Colarke for ij yarne [iron]			
stabylls [staples]			iiij
For iiij wystlles			ij
payde at the hyrynge of the caryages			j
payde for ij chesses			v
for a gambone ⁴⁹ a bacon & iiij fyte ⁵⁰			vj

⁴⁶ The music was not expensive. The singers named probably come from the Cathedral, or Monastery as it was then still called.

⁴⁷ For the Manger scene or for riding in procession.

⁴⁸ For their hoods.

⁴⁹ Tercius Pastor :

"Abyde, fellowes, and you shall see here
This hotte meate serveid here
Gammons and other good meate in feare [company]
A pudding with a pricke [skewer] in the ende."

⁵⁰ A pig's feet.

Primus Pastor :

"Now will I caste of my cloke
And put out part of my liverye,
And put out that I have in my pocke
And a pygges foote from pudding purye."

"Gygges" foot appears in Wright's version, but the alliteration clearly shows "pigges," as Wright himself observes.

	li	s.	d.
For ij gannokes from Wavyntone ⁵¹			ij
For getting wedes ⁵²			ij
Spend at gettynge cattes ⁵³ an bottylse			iiij
payde for a topes yede [tup's head]			iiij
For nelles corde pynes pynttes & pake- thyde ⁵⁴			ix
For the as[s] lede doune			xij
For peynting the honke ⁵⁵ & ars the styltes and the stave			xij
For Crabes			j
for a lawne a velle [loin of veal]			vj
To Dosse wyfe for hagocyes			vj viij
To the Sheppet boyes	iiij		-
Roger Calcotte for a form to the carryge			ij
A skynne to trowes shewes			vj
Trowes boye			vj
O ^r Lady			vj
John Tacker for a board			iiij
A pot of bear			j

⁵¹ Tercius Pastor :

“And heare ale of Halton I have
And whotte meate I hade to my hier
A pudding may no man deprave,
And a jannacke of Lancaster Shire.”

But instead of going to Lancashire they went to Waverton for the “jannocks.” Even then one wonders why they went so far to get so little. “Waverton puddings” are an old institution and are made at Waverton Wakes, which take place on the first Sunday after July 10th. Perhaps these are the descendants of the famous “jannocks.”

⁵² Garments, cf., “widow's weeds.”

⁵³ Cates, “choice food,” “Comfits and Cates.” “From an earlier *acate*, an old French dialect form corresponding to modern French *achat*=purchase, . . . whence our *Caterer*.”—Weekly, *Romance of Words*.

⁵⁴ Points=laces. All these were in use for the scenery and actors.

⁵⁵ The hank or handle of the banner, and the staff of office carried before the Company. Perhaps there was some decoration of the harness of the “Ars.”

	li	s.	d.
Harvey's wages ⁵⁶		i	viiij
Tuddes wage		i	viiij
Trowes wage	ij	-	
The wage of the Angel		vj	
Ryding [reading] of the orygnal	j	-	
Spent going to borrow bogyttes ⁵⁷		ij	
For a bestes tongue & iiij calves fytte		viiij	
For botture [butter]		viiij	
Payd W. Dooses wyffe for lethes & lenarse ⁵⁸		xij	
For a tryne platar [treen platter] ⁵⁹		iiij	
To viii pottares of the caryages	ij	x	
To Peter a Moston ⁶⁰ for trowe's shone [shoes] making and for his penes an laburs		xvj	

⁵⁶ The first shepherd was Hankin, the second Harvey, and the third Tudde.

First Shepherd: "Ho! Harvey! ho! ho!
Drive thy sheep to the low.

Cry thou must this loud—by this day—
Tud is deaf and may not well hear us."

Second Shepherd: "How Tud! Come for thy fathers's kin!"

First Shepherd: "Nay! fye! thy voice is wondrous dim
Why knowest not thou him?
Fye man for shame.
Call him Tud, Tibbe's son,
And then will the Shrew come."

⁵⁷ "Budge" is lambskin with the wool dressed outwards. "Budge Row," in London, was for the sale of this trimming, as "Paternoster Row" was for the sale of beads. The budge was used for the hoods.

⁵⁸ "Lenesse" or "lennesse"—lean flesh. (*Promptorium Parvulorum*.) "Lethes," I take to be "livers." The scribe is a wretched speller and probably pronounced "liver" as "lither." Such a change was not uncommon, as "Litherpool" and "Liverpool."

⁵⁹ A wooden platter. The word still survives in "trencher" and "trencherman." Holinshed, the historian, in speaking of the improvements in the life of the people, says: "The thirde thinge they tell of is the exchange of treene platters into pewter, and woode spoones into silver or tin. For so common were al sortes of treene vesselles in old time that a man should hardly find four peces of pewter, of which one was peradventure a salte, in a good farmer's house." "Treen beddes was he wont to make."—*Cursor Mundi*.

⁶⁰ Moston—a small township just outside Chester. Trowe's shoes seem to have been of rough goatskin, so that he must have looked something like Robinson Crusoe. It is evident that they were a very important item.

	li	s.	d.
For bayse [baize] that Richard Dobie had			j
For paints to bone ⁶¹ the pleares			ij
payd to the Mynstrals			ij
for two wystyles for Trowe			ij
For the breakfast to the pleares and pottars of the Caryage		vi	viii
Drink to the pleares			iiij
Payre of lether garters			vj
a Shype hoke [sheep's hock]			vj
For going upon the styltes at the riding of the banes			vj
a nother payr of sewes [shoes] for Trowe			xvj
	3	3	2
	li	s.	d.
For wheat to cook veneson ⁶² the xj of September			ij -
a Crock of beer			xij
a pottle of sack			xij
a q ^r of mutton			x
another q ^r of mutton			x
iiij pound of sewett			viiij
ii oz of pepper			vj
Sasone [seasoning]			j
butter			iiij
iiij pottles of claret wyne		xviiij	
To the Wayterne			iiij
another pottele of claret wyne			iiij
For ale			iiij
For peares			iiij
for baking the venison			iiij

⁶¹ Bone—to get ready.

⁶² This was "Frumenty" or "Furmety." An old formula is: "Take clean wheat, & tray it in a mortar, that the hulls be all gone off, and seethe it till it burst, and take it up and let it cool; and take fresh clean broth, & sweet milk of almonds, or sweet milk of kine and temper it all; and take the yoke of eggs. Boil it a little & set it down & mess it forth with fat venison or fresh mutton." Venison was seldom served without this accompaniment, but sometimes furmety seasoned with cinnamon, sugar, etc., was a dish of itself. A person in a dilemma was said to be "in a frumenty sweat."

1573

Midsomer Showe only no Witson playe

	li	s.	d.
For ij potts of ale att Thomas Barkers on			
Midsomers even	ij	-	
To Ryd Dobe for going uppon the styltes			iiij
To Edward Dobe for going uppon the stylts			
at Midsomer			iiij
For wrytyng the coppe of our order			ij
For Russhes			j

1574

	li	s.	d.
For ryngyng the greate bell of ye abbey ⁶³			xij
For going on the stylts			xij
For entryng Tomase Pentone			ij
For a restyng tomase Pentone			iiij
For an excekusion for Jeffere byckele ⁶⁴			ij

1575

For Whytson playes in the y^r of oure Lorde God 1575 and in the same yeare

John Sanyche⁶⁵ Mayor of this Cyte of Chester.

	li	s.	d.
I layd doune at the rehearse by command of			
M ^r Mayore			xij
For bere for the pleares at the same			
reherse			j
For ij goat skynnes for trowes shoes			iiij
For xvj erthen moges [mugs]			xxj
For wystells			ij
For the heyare [hire] of the ij bardes ⁶⁶ and			
trowes cape			xvj

⁶³ The first time this is mentioned in the Accounts. Most of the Companies contributed to this useful curfew for a long period.

⁶⁴ These are for offences against the Company, which, as time went on, became more and more strict in compelling its members to observe the rules and regulations.

⁶⁵ This is an extraordinary spelling for Sir John Savage; and this is the last performance entered on the books.

⁶⁶ Bard—a trapping for a horse—Halliwell. Probably used in procession.

	li	s.	d.
For wystelles			ij
For the brekyng of the botell			ij
In nales, pynes & pak thryde			vj
For pouder for the sengers ⁶⁷			vj
For the leg loyne & tounge of vell			xv
For the topes hed & the greynes			ij
For the boylenge and dressinge the garbyche			xij
For xvj hagosses	iiij		vj
For ij chysses			iiij
For xij poultires of the caryge	iiij		iiij
To Peter of Moston for makying of Trowles showes & hys paynes			xij
iiij Shepardes boyes			xvj
For Troules boy			vj
To Joseeffe			xij
To Marye			vj
To our Angell			vj
For a Janoke			ij
For Cakes			iiij
For Drynke for the pleares			x
To Rycharde Dobie for goying one the styltes at the banes rydyng			vj
For goyng on the styltes on Midsomer Eve			vj
For the mynstrell to the plase	ij		-
In boroweng tangkardes & bages			ij
For wedes			ij
For the Souper to the pleares	v		-
Bystowed one drynke to the penters [painters] when the playe was donne			vj

1575

	li	s.	d.
For the Waytes men			xij
To Pere Morlocke the piper			iiij

The singers were carefully disguised, and perhaps rightly so, as they generally came from the Cathedral.

	li	s.	d.
Spent when we were with M ^r Mayor about Pole ⁶⁸			iiij
Payd to Edward Dobie for going on the stilts			xij

1576

Things laid out for our occupacyon since Saynt Lukes day
1576 then Mayor M^r John Harvey

	li	s.	d.
Payd for a pottell of Sacke at our Aldermans house uppon Saynt Lukes day			xij
Payd for iiij pottles of alle at Wyllyam framways uppon Midsomer even before the wache[watch] was uppon the Sheperts and others			iiij
For payntyng the styltes			vj
payd for the rent of the tower			xij
Spent in going about the occupacyons business			vj
the ij sheperts for going uppon the styltes			xx
Lede doune for Rysscysse [Rushes]			j

1577

[Mem.]

Robart Waytt is fyned for that he did premysse the Company that his man should goe uppon the Styltes upon Midsomer even 1577 and keptt bothe his man and the Styltes from us and went in to the Isle of Man with them and so caused us to be at xviiij^d more charge untyll we had neded ⁶⁹ xij^d

Memo that Robert Wayt is contented that Thomas Pyllam⁷⁰ shall pay unto the Company xij^d whyche he oeth him for his accounts uppon Saynt Lukes day for this fyne that he is fyned for keeping of the Styltes.

1578

	li	s.	d.
For Midsomer device for Cutberson to set the Armes uppon			iiij
a payre of gloves			ij

⁶⁸ See *post*, pages 189-90.

⁶⁹ This shows what importance was attached to their stilts, and they must have been a great speciality as no others were available.

⁷⁰ Pyllam owed Wayt 12d., but paid it to the Company, who were evidently, in no mood to relax the fine.

	li	s.	d.
For dressing the boye			iiij
Rent for the Meeting housse			vj

1579

[Mem.]

That James Bannester ys to paye to the Company for the loan of the Cheste in the Churche yearly as long as please the Company

vj^d

[Accounts]

	li	s.	d.
for wyne at John Dewsburie's dynner			viiij
for wyne the same day in Mr Goodmans Taverne			vj
For the arreest and entereng of Chatterton & spent in ale j ^d goinge about the same			vij
For the overplus of a shott at our aldermans Hallwoods when we mette the 12 of November			ij
Spent at the selenge of the obligacon be tyxte Chatterton & us			ij
Spent the sextenthe of May at the wydowe percinas ij ^d and at thomas barkers the same day ij ^d when we recevd iiij ^s of wydowe Halwode ⁷¹			iiij
For goying one the steltes			vj

1580

Received of John Dewsberye for rent of the Cheste

vj

1581

Rec^d of John Dewsburye for the lone of the Cheste

vj

1582

Payd for a pottell of Sacke at Gesper⁷² Gyllams uppon Saynt Leukes Day or for peares ables and nuttes

xij

⁷¹ On another page we read: "Mem. that the 19 May 1579 Ales Halewood wydow came agayne to our Company and then & there was contented and did submytte her selfe & her sonnes unto the Company, but was then agreed that thenceforth she should be as a sister of the said Company." On S. Luke's day, 1586, she "did wholly discharge herself from the Companie in maner & forme as heretofore in like case hath been accustomed."

⁷² Jasper. Later it is spelt "Chesper."

li s. d.

Payd to the Steward of the barbers for the rent of the tower	vj
To Edward Dobie for going uppon the styltes	xvj

1583

Spent at the beryaull of our Alderman Halwood	viij
For a payre of gloves to the child that rode on Midsomer even	iiij
For a payre of showes to the same child	x
Payd at the buriall of John Allens chyld	vj

1584

To the officer for to faitch brother Hale- woode before the maior for denying of deuties	iiij
For the paper sett in this book whearine are the Othes orders and ordinance of ye Company ⁷⁸	j
For Cloathe to the Fuarde [furred] hoodes and the makying of them	vj vj
For a payre of Buskyns to the childe	xij
For the lace to the buskkyns	ij

1585-6

To Beasby the Minstrell	iiij
Spent by the Companye at John Chaloners after the buringe of Anne Picke the 9 of November	vj
Spent by the Companie at Foxholes house in handbridge after the buryng of our Syster Dohye the last day of January 1586	x
Layd out for the enteringe and arrestinge of Richard Sutton	vj

⁷⁸ This and many other subsequent entries are in the excellent handwriting of Thomas Chaloner.

	li	s.	d.
For the bond wherein the sayd Sutton was bound not to truble the Companye			vj
Spent at the borrowing of two chaynes of gould ⁷⁴			iiij
For flins ⁷⁵ to dresse the boyes capp			iiij
For pynes to dresse the boy			j

1585

[Fines]

Thomas Barker fyned for not accompaninge his Aldermen & complimes [<i>sic</i>] uppon Midsom Eve			xij
Raffe Halewoode fyned for deludinge and in the breaking promyse with his officers and Company for not accomplishing bargayne with his brother according to promise			xij
Nicholas Halewood fyned for installinge his brother Rafe without the meeting house			vj

1586

Fine holland clothe for our banner ⁷⁶	v	-
For threyde to hem yt and for the ylott holes		j
To the Taylor for the setting on the fringe to the Banner		iiij
To the Smythe for the Iron rodde that beareth upp the banner		vj
To the Bereache ⁷⁷ at the makeinge of oure Banner spent at our Aldermans	ij	viij
Spent at a bereach to the Taylor at the putting on of the fringe of ye banner		ij
For the staffe to carry the banner		x
Spent at the buriall of our Alderman		xvj

⁷⁴ To deck the boy with at the Show. He was very gay this year.

⁷⁵ Nap or down.

⁷⁶ This new banner was undoubtedly due to Chaloners influence. He gave the Company a new one the next year.

⁷⁷ Beer-age or beer-drinking.

	li	s.	d.
Layde doune for iij ^{lb} of pould ^{r 78}		iiij	vj
For pax ⁷⁹ and Crossebowe threade			viiij

1587

[Mem.]

In this yere Thomas Chaloner gave to the Companies bothe the Colours and the making of a banner with the foure sundrie Coats and Creastes of the Companyes, the Alderman Robert Leche gave the Couler to yt and the garnishinge of the staffe to beare yt, and the socket to yt, and the rest payde by the Companie.

	li	s.	d.
In pris uppon S ^t Luke Daye at our brother			
Barkers house for wynne			x
for drink in all			x
To the Waytes			xij
Spent at the recete of our brother Allens			
moneys			xi

1588

Spent atte the coming in of the Erle of			
Darbye			xij
Spent when we went fyrst to M ^r Mayre			
about the Wevers			viiij
Spent upon M ^r Grene M ^r Hankye M ^r Bryde			
in M ^r Barans taverne as concerning the			
fylt wever [felt weaver]		ij	ij
Spent about a work man that the Sadlers			
kepte			viiij
Given to M ^r Recorder att his coming home a			
quart of wyne			viiij
Spent at the buryall of thomas pylllys wyfe			xvj

1589

To Thomas Chaloner for the Booke			xiiiij
Spent at Thomas Chaloners at the amend-			
inge of our banner			vij

⁷⁸ Powder. The origin of these warlike preparations, both "ancient and modern," may be found, I think, in the "Annals of Chester" (*Sheaf*, Jan., 1912) for 1586: "There was a sodden hew and crye which came to this Cittye in the neighte that London was one fiere and Bristow and that there were a Navye of Spanish shippes landed in Worrall; which news raised up all the Cittye and Cuntrie hear abouts, but it proved nothing soe."

⁷⁹ Pack thread.

	li	s.	d.
Spent at the fetchinge awaie of y ^e banner			vj
To an impotent old man on Midsom ^r Eve			ij

1590

To the Barbers for rent of the tower			vj
For the entering of an action and for the arresting of Griffith			
For painting and doing the windows			vj

In this year, we have, for the first time, a list of the "occupations" of the eighteen members of the Company. They include :—

7 Painters,
7 Embroiderers,
4 Glasiors;

and of the five journeymen :—

2 Painters,
1 Embroiderer,
2 Glasiors.

There is not a single Stationer or Bookbinder.⁸⁰

1591

[Mem.]

Suche as did followe the banner upon Mydsomer eve 1591
M^r R^d Massye Maio^r⁸¹

Will^m Fframwaye
Tho Chaloner
John Walker
Rob^t Wayte
Edward Dawbye
John Dewsburye
Raffe Halewood
Thomas Prickett
Robert Edmunds

⁸⁰ In 1591, there is one Stationer—William Holme—and so late as 1688 there was only one Stationer in Chester.

In 1592, John Alleyne appears in the book as a journeyman "bookebindder." It is possible that he was the father of the two brothers named John Allen who were choristers in Chester Cathedral, c. 1601.

⁸¹ The Company did not muster so strongly as one would expect. Only half the members were present.

li s. d.

[Accounts]

For a skin to make the boy a jerkin for Midsummer ⁸²	vj
For the making of a jerkin for the boy	xiiij
For dressing the staff for Midsomer	iiij

1592

To the arrestinge of an Imbroderer	viiij
For fringe to the banner & sowing	xvj
For painting the staff	vj
Spent on Coronation Daie	x
To the entering of an action to the Imbroderer	j

1593

To Edward Dobie for going on stiltes	ij vj
Spent uppon the Queenes Ma ^{te} day	v ij

1594

To the 3 men that guyded the boy	j iiij
To M ^r Ridley ffor warning Percivall	iiij

[Mem.]

Thomas Chaloner fined for wilfully absent- ing himself	xij
---	-----

1595

Laid out for paper	j
Paid towards the reparacion of the meeting house and to keep it drye	xv
Laid out for bereage to the mason	iiij
For the Tyling of the meeting house	v iiij
For rybbands to tie about the childes hede	ij

1596

Upon St Lukes at our brother Basnettes dynner for a pottle of sack at Wydow Alcocks	xx
To the Waytes of the Cittie the same daie	xviiij
Spent in wyne at our brother Hankens dinner	xx

⁸² The boy was no longer embowered in green.

	li	s.	d.
Given to the Mynstrelles ⁸³ at ye tyme			xij
For the hire of ij horses to the Stewards for the bringing in of my Lord Darbie by M ^r Maiors Comann ^d			xvj

1597-8

Item spent after our meeting upon the iij daye of June when Randall Holme became a brother xij ^d that remayned in debiting his fyne and xij that William hancock paide for a fine	ij	-
--	----	---

[Mem.] Randall Holme became a brother uppon the thride daie of June 1598 and paide doune for his fyne xl^s whearof there was geaven him ageane xx^s so hee paide xx^s which was equally divided amonge the Company the same time.

The saide Randall made his dyner boothe unto this Company and unto theire wyves the xiiijth day of November 1598.

	li	s.	d.
For the Childs apparell the outesydes lyn- inges bumbast lase buttons and for the making			xxiiij -

1599

For the amending and repaying of our banner and layinge of the staff in oyle cullers	ij	-
--	----	---

Spent upon Randall Eaton for helping to drive away the statyoner after the fayre ⁸⁴	iiij
---	------

Spent upon the Seconde daye of July in the Companyes behalf in inquiringe about the petycoat that was taken from Thomas Gyllams and at the sealing of Jeremy Smythes bonds	vj
--	----

⁸³ The Waits were City *officials* and musicians. Minstrels were ordinary city musicians licensed to perform by the Annual Minstrel Court, but not *officials*.

⁸⁴ This was a peripatetic stationer who was not allowed to remain in the city after the fair was finished.

1600

	li	s.	d.
payd in overplus for repaying our meeting house			j

1601

Payd to Randall Holme that he layd doune for the reperation of our meeting house	v	ij	
To Stev ⁿ Dawbye for going upon Stilts		xij	

1602

Spent upon S ^t Lukes in Gose-lane	iiij	iiij	
Payd upon the xvij th daye of November for the arresting of one that was paynteing in S ^t Jones lane ⁸⁵			v
Spent upon Shrove tewsdays upon Sconse ⁸⁶ and others in laying wayte for a paynter that was working at John Rogersonns		iiij	
Spent at another tyme in layeing wayet about a glasear		ij	
For a pokett to carry the hour glasse		ij	
Spent when the Companye went about M ^r Powell for selling of glasse		iiij	
For the mans examynatyone before M ^r Maior touching M ^r Powell		xij	
Layd doun at our drinking on the Kyngs day		xij	

1603

Given unto Nicolaas Hallwood when his house was visetted w th the plagg	v	-	
Spent at sundry tymes when wee went about the Imbroderers petition		xiiij	
Given to Thomas Dalby for draweing and writting the petition	ij	-	
Payde for Mr. Whitby preferring the said peticyon at the assembly		xij	

⁸⁵ The Company got more and more litigious and tenacious of their rights and privileges; and we have here some of the "peaceful picketing" of the period, brought about by the steady growing opposition to the close privileges of City Companies.

⁸⁶ Five members of this family still belong to the Company.

	li	s.	d.
Payde to Mr. Whitby for Ingrossing the order granted unto us by the Assembly and writing it in the black book of the Citty for Record			
Spent upon him in wyne at Thomas Ollertons tavarne	viiij	-	
Payd to Thomas Corbyn for a Coppy of the order			
	ij	-	

1604

To Thomas Dalby for draweing a noate between our Company and the barbers			vj
Payd for the Syling of our meeting house			vj

1605

For aresting the Imbroderer			viiij
For fetching the said man before Mr Maior			vj
For a new hower glasse and mending the case			v
For a sokett to houlde the banner			ij
For mending the banner and Colloring the staff			xviiij
For the lone of a hatt at Midsomer even			xij

1606

Spent aboute the trouble wee had w th the lady Cholmley			x
For Sylvering the lace of the Chyldes Clothes at Midsomer			xx
For the chest and hinges			ij iiij

1607

Geven to Symones daughters offering ⁸⁷			iiij iiij
For mending the banner			xij

1608

For the aresting and entering of the paynter			x
Given to the paynter again out of his money			vj

⁸⁷ Perhaps on her marriage.

1609

Fines and offences committed :—

	li	s.	d.
William handcock fined for giving John fframway foule wordes			vj
Nicholas Halwode [for the same offence]			vj
William Polle fined for seteing a gorniman at work contrarye to our orders ⁸⁸			xij
John fframway fined for giving Tapley whit[e] to collor the talbot and for mantaning him aganast the Companie		iiij	iiij
Receved of William tapley for wrongeing the Company			vj

[Expenses]

Payd for shewties for the boyes showes			ij
Payd for showes			xvj
Payd for the Entering and aresting of William Tapley			vj
To Mr Amery for St George ⁸⁹	xx		-

1610

[Receipts]

Received of Gilbert Eaton for lending on St Georges day the childes clothes ⁹⁰			xij
--	--	--	-----

[Expenditure]

For silvering the Childs Clothes		ij	-
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⁸⁸ We may note that in this year two journeymen were at work with Randle Holme—Samuel Harmer and Thomas Heskett. In 1610 we find John Holme "with his father" William Holme, as a journeyman.

⁸⁹ Archdeacon Rogers tells us "In 1609 . . . one Mr. Amery iron-monger sometime Sheriff of Chester . . . at his own coste chiefly, as I conceive, caused three silver cuppes or bells to be made," and they were awarded for horse races on the Roodeye on St. George's Day. The Archdeacon's qualification is correct, for this item shows that Mr. Amery did not pay the *whole* cost of his festivities.

⁹⁰ The clothes were evidently much thought of, and certainly the Company had spent a good deal in "silvering and gilding" them from time to time, so this year they were used in the Great Show organised by Robert Amery in honour of Prince Henry. The Historian specially says: "The Boyes were of rare spirit & exquisite performance." See *Chester's Triumph*, Chetham Society Series.

1611

	li	s.	d.
Spent at Alderman holmes the v th of Novem- ber being the Kinges day			iiij
payd for rushes			v
payd for wrytinge paper			j
For a quarter of Callin ⁹¹			vj
Given to the Taylors man for bererage			iiij
Spent at Harrisons in ffishmonger lane			xij
For furkle ⁹² for the childes clothes			vj
for gilding of the childes Clothes	ij	-	
Payd for a pyk of iron for the staffe			ij

1612

payd for the Companies two new banners	1	-	
--	---	---	--

1613

[Receipts]

Receaved of Nicholas Gare ⁹³ for his fine for abusing the Companie and refusing to collect being stuard and was turned out of his place	iiij	vj	
William handcock for disprasing the red lion in[n] ⁹⁴	ij	-	
Nicholas Gare fined for giving the Alderman foule words			vj
Rec of Moses Dalby for not enrouling his aprentice within the yeare fined in			xiiij
Rec: of John Walker for his fine for abuse at a meeting			vj

⁹¹ ? *Callimanco*, a rough sort of cloth.

⁹² Perhaps "crinkled" or "crimped" edging. A "Forkelyd" woman was one "wrinkled with age."

The tailor had much to do for the boy this year, as many items (omitted here) show.

⁹³ "Carr" or "Carre," but frequently spelt "Gare." The "C" must have been much softened in pronunciation.

⁹⁴ On what grounds the Company inflicted so heavy a fine I fail to see. Possibly the Inn was kept by a member, or a relation of a member, of the Company.

[Expenditure]	li	s.	d.
Given to M ^r Mayor towardses the new mesure ⁹⁵	vj	viiij	
Spent on a banket for M ^r Mayor and his bretheren	xvj	iv	
payd for Rushes flowers and making the house clean		xij	
payd for our part for lead and mending the topp of the tower		xx	
For rushes for the house		vj	

1614

Given by the Aldermens appoyntment to an Imbroyderer w ^h came out of Ireland	xviiij		
Layd out the xxiiij of Auguste for our Aldermens expenses in attending upon M ^r Maior and Judge Warburton		x	
Payd to Robert Thynne for going with us to distrayne upon the later fayre day		vj	

1615

Payd for a brawne and for dressing it which was bestowed by the Companye upon Sheriff Holme ⁹⁶	xxxj	j	
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1616

For the first suite against Joseph Ossspringe attourney fees	iiij	vj	
For declaration	ij	-	
paid to Joseph Lingley for being a witness for his oath		vj	
Spent on him		iiij	
for execution	ij	viiij	
bill of Cost		viiij	
To the Atourney on the passage day		iiij	
Given to William Holme by appointm ^t ⁹⁷		vj	viiij

⁹⁵ A "newe Bushell or measure for the measuring of corn" was adopted by the Corporation in 1610. Perhaps this was a special measure for rye. See *post* 1618.

⁹⁶ Randle Holme was this year Sheriff of the City and Alderman of the Company.

⁹⁷ He died shortly after. Perhaps this assistance was given to him in his illness.

	li	s.	d.
At alderman Hooles the day the King came for stronge beare			vj
[Fines & Receipts]			
of the ij aldermen and vj bretheren for coming short to a meeting the last of June iij ^d a piece		ij	-
of Moses Dalby for setting a Jurneyman a worke without admittance of the alder- men			vj
For the Execution served on Joseph Osspring	xv		-

1617

For mending ye lead and top of ye meeting house for our part	viii	x	
For our part of ye rent of ye phenix ⁹⁸			
About ye suite against William Norman Embroiderer		j	vj
For stufte for ye childes breeches	iiij	viii	
For Cotton and ye making		ij	ij
For silvering		ij	-
For gloves for the Aldermen & Stuards	iiij	iiij	
To Sir George Bendcles man that led the horse		j	vj
riband for the horse head			ij
For Arsedine ⁹⁹			ij
To the Smith for altering ye locke of ye loar house ¹⁰⁰			viii

1618

[Fines]			
of our Stuard John Tailor for not coming to our meeting nor sending ye key ye xv th of July		j	-
of peter Ince for being tardy at a meeting ye xiiij of Oct ^r			iiij

⁹⁸ The Phoenix Tower. This is the first time this name is used.

⁹⁹ Gold-leaf. It appears several times in the accounts of the Coventry Mystery Plays (see Sharp's *Dissertation*):

"Payd for a paper of Aresdyke xij^d"

There are numerous variants of spelling, one of which is "Orsady" or "Orsadie," and this may perhaps be the original form, but the derivation seems obscure.

¹⁰⁰ The lower room in the Tower.

[Expenditure]	li	s.	d.
At the measuring of rie at ye Watergate ¹⁰¹	j		ij
For loan of the hat and feather			vj
To an officer for shutting doun ye Stationers windowes at midsom ^r			iiij
William Handcock for gilding ye little phenix			vj
Paid for o ^r part for mending ye glas win- dowes	j		xj

1619

[Fines]	
of Thomas Waite for his fine in taking work out of John Walkers hand at M ^r Beckets at Backford	xij
Alderman Poole Nicholas Halwood and William Handcoke for setting a whit- limer on worke to lay red lead iiij ^d a peece	xij

[Expenditure]	
Given in berage at dressing ye Phenix carried at Midsom ^r	ij
For Arsedine	iiij
Paied at severall times the charges disbursed about ye Phenix	xvij x

The book closes with the Accounts for this year (except an odd page for 1628), but a few extracts from the various memoranda jotted down on the blank leaves may be of interest as illustrating the rules and customs of the Company.

We have seen from the Accounts how the Company insisted upon regularity and punctuality of attendance at meetings, how members were fined even for not

¹⁰¹ Morris (p. 228) says: "In an Assembly Order 12 Aug. 28 Elizabeth [1585-6] directions are given that a certain quantity of rye bought as a 'common bargain' should be sent up to the Watergate by and in severall boats and two members of the Council are deputed to 'attend at times convenient at the Watergate for recepte of the said corne and of the boats.'" The Company probably shared in one of these "common bargains."

coming with enough money to pay their share, or for using improper language, and how the payment of fees was very rigorously insisted on. A defaulter, if alive, was turned out of the Company (a very serious matter for him), and if dead, his household goods were seized for payment, as the following cases show :—

“ 1619

John fframwell

Turned out of o^r Company ye xvth of Aprill 1619.

Rec^d of John ffromway for his fine he being turned out of o^r Companie upon his humble petition ye xjth of January to be admitted Whereas his fine was xx^s ye Companie accepted iij^s so that he behave himselfe well and orderly if he misbehave himself to pay ye whole fine.

1573

Memorand that Wyllyam Framway Robert Lyche John Clynnes & Edward Dobie are a pointed to prayse [appraise] a brasse pot taken from Robert Wayttes for dewetes belonging to the occupacyon the value is ij^s jd and also a brason chamber taken from Ales Hallewood the vj of April 1573. the sayd potte is praysed by the sayd four men to the value of iij^s iiij^d the chamber ys in lyke manner praysed the value of xvjd.

1574

Memorand that there was a chaffer of potte brasse taken from Ales Halewood late wyffe to Ryd halwood the xiiijth of November 1572 for dewtyes belonging to the Company to the value of ii^s iiij^d and the same was praysed by Wyllyam framway Thomas powle Thomas Barker and John Allen and the same wayd at dame Sonnders shoppe waying nyne ponde and halffe at iiij^d a ponde iij^s ij^d.”

In regard to dress, it is noteworthy that in 1586

“It is ordered that noe brother shall weare his aprone before him at any tyme or tymes when hee goeth out of his house or shopp into the Cittye ; excepte hee have his stuffe or tooles in his hand that he doothe or shall worke withall,”

and in May, 1610, it is ordered that

"every brother shall at every meeting weare his gowne "
under pain of a fine, and

"Whereas some of our brethren have no gownes there is a tyme lymeted by the Companye to give them warninge to provyde them gownes in the mean tyme they are not to be culpable of the fine afore written."

The Company did its best to keep peace between its members:—

"March 8, 1595

That whereas varience hath beene between Edward Dawbie and John Walker for and concerning the glasing of a house of John Hope of broughton Esq^r; yt is ordered and sett doune by the assent of all or most part of the Companie that all the said woorke now to be done for new worke that it shall be divided into three pts and Edward Dawbie to do twoe pts thereof & John Walker the thurd pte . . . and to agree & contynue brethren & friendly."

Sometimes, however, a member was absolutely uncontrollable:—

"1575

Thomas Pole dyd say the laste of October att a metying that he wolde nott come to any metying at the warnyng of anye Stuerter [Steward] upon an others warnyng no nor with M^r Mayre nether

That the same tyme he bade Thomas pentnye being stuerter that he shulde nott come in his house, for if he did . . . that that came for the one shuld smarte for ytt¹⁰²

Att the same tyme he sayd to our Alderman by these wordes of the name of Halwood thou lies falsleye and thou wyll prove a thousand lyes I have an . . . othe to lay againste the.

At the same tyme he called the whole Company *Drunken Swallygutttes*.

¹⁰² Owing to erasures this sentence is obscure.

Att the same tyme he saide we all wrytte no pure woordes but false with gods blud gods house and gods wounds.

The said tyme he went his way and wolde nott tary att the bydyng of nether aldermen nor stuerthe w^h ys contrary to his othe." ¹⁰³

Any resignation was solemnly dealt with:—

"Memorand that Thomas Pentony came to oure metyng housse and there utterly refused the occupacyon uppon Saynt Lukes daye being the year of oure Lord God 1570 then beyng meare [mayor] M^r John hankye and his mother Jane pentony dyd refuse the sayd occupacyon the same daye in lyke maner."

"Memorand that Anne pyck [Pike] late wyffe to Wylliam pyke paynter came to our metyng housse uppon Saynt Lukes day and then & there utterly refused the occupacyon in the yeare of oure Lord God 1573 then Mayor of the Cytte Ryd Dutton."

A late memo.¹⁰⁴ gives an interesting summary of the arrangements for the hire of the meeting house:—

"The Company of painters etc gave 2^s 8^d to the Company of barbers etc the 5 May 1573 for their good will to have the meeting house to meet in as ffreely as themselves & to pay 6^d the yeare.

Paid 1575 the rent of tower 6^d & so paid to the yeare 1612.

Our part of the rent of the tower meeting house 18^d in the yeare 1613 when the tower was built on the charge of both Companyes.

Paid 1613 the treasurers the rent of ye tower 1^s.

Spent at a general meeting of both Companyes in goeing to the 4 Companyes that were tenants to the under house 3^s 8^d.

¹⁰³ Many fines are recorded against him, and the Company spent "when we went with M^r Mayor about Pole iij^d," but all to no purpose, I think. They met their match this time.

¹⁰⁴ On a small sheet of paper, and inserted when the book was rebound.

Paid for our part for lead & mending the tower 20^d & these have bine continued to the year 1672."

It is probable that the pictures mentioned below were destroyed at the time of the Civil War. We must all regret that this rule was inoperative and that we have lost such priceless relics:—

"Memorandum

That it is ordered at a meeting the 4 day of April 1621 that whereas hearetofore there were certaine pictures of ancient brethren of this Company given to the house for the ornament there of, it is agreed that no brother nor any other shall take away these pictures henceforwarde or borrow the same without the assent of the Aldermen and Stuards under fine of x^s."

In conclusion, I would point out that these accounts do not show, as is commonly supposed, that these Companies spent much time and money in eating and drinking. The liquor when divided up amongst those present at a meeting very often did not amount to more than a pint for each person, and then it should be remembered that it was *good* wine and honest wholesome beer. With regard to the food, I doubt if our citizens nowadays of the standing and position of Randal Holme or Thomas Chaloner would care to sit down to a "feast" consisting of a sheep's head, or tripe, or haggis.

The Company still exists and numbers twenty-three members, of whom nineteen reside in Chester.

To the two Aldermen, Mr. Jepson, senr., and Mr. D. Sconce, I am deeply indebted for allowing me the free use of their valuable volume. May the Company long flourish!



Two Elizabethan Chamberlains of the Palatinate of Chester

BY J. H. E. BENNETT

(Read 1st April, 1913)



IN the year 1871 large accumulations of soil were removed from the ruins of the Choir and Choir Chapels of the Collegiate Church of St. John the Baptist, Chester, and, during the progress of the work, many interesting discoveries were made.¹

As a result of the excavation a bank now rises from the ground level to the foot of the east wall of the present Chancel, and, on the highest part of the bank, resting against the wall, are four flat free-stone slabs. They measure approximately from two to three feet in breadth, by two and a half feet in height, and eight inches in thickness, and on each is an achievement of arms in relief in a fair state of preservation. The stones stand in the order in which they are about to be described, the first one being the most southerly; and they are placed at fairly even distances along the wall.

So far as can be ascertained, no previous particular attention has been given to these objects, although

¹ Canon S. Cooper Scott's *History of St. John Baptist, Chester*, p. 241.

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2



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4

Arms in the Churchyard of St. John the Baptist, Chester.



they bear witness of an association of two very notable men with this city. The description of the carving on each is as under:—

First stone. Quarterly of eight:—1. [Argent], on a bend [azure] three stags' heads caboshed [or]—Stanley. 2. [Or], on a chief indented [azure] three plates—Lathom. 3. [Gules], three legs conjoined in fess point [in armour proper, garnished and spurred or]—Isle of Man. 4. Chequy [or and azure]—Warren. 5. [Gules, two] lion[s] passant in pale [argent]—Strange. 6. [Argent], a fess and canton conjoined [gules]—Woodville. 7. [Or], a cross engrailed [sable]—Mohun. 8. [Azure], a lion rampant [argent]—Montalt. On an escutcheon of pretence no charges can now be discerned, but the Montalt lion is sometimes shewn on an escutcheon in the Stanley coat, and, it has been suggested that, by a mason's error, it may have been so shewn in this instance.² The shield is encircled by the Garter and surmounted by an earl's coronet. This appears to be intended for the achievement of William Stanley, fourth Earl of Derby, taking into consideration all the evidence; although, by the quarterings and garter, it might equally well apply to certain other members of his family.

Second stone.* [Azure], a sword of state erect between three garbs [or]. These are the arms of Randle Blundeville, Earl of Chester, but with the

² There is a window in the North Aisle of Mold Parish Church with a quartered and garter encircled shield of an Earl of Derby, among other heraldry relating to his family. The shield is as under: Quarterly. First grand quarter—Quarterly. 1 and 4. Stanley. 2. Lathom. 3. Warren. Second and third grand quarters. The Isle of Man. Fourth grand quarter—Quarterly. 1 and 4. Montalt. 2. Woodville. 3. Mohun. On an escutcheon of pretence—Montalt.

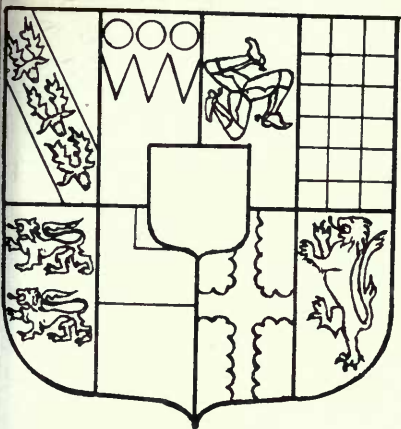
addition of the sword, and, although frequently used for Chester, as in this case, are not the correct arms of the city.³ The date 1585 is on this shield.

Third stone. Quarterly, 1 and 4. [Azure], three fleurs-de-lis [or]—France. 2 and 3. [Gules], three lions passant guardant in pale [or]—England. The shield is encircled by the Garter and surmounted by a crown. These are the arms of England, as borne by its sovereigns from Henry V. to Elizabeth, with the addition of the Garter. Henry VIII. was the first English monarch to encircle the Royal arms with the Garter, surmounted by the Crown, upon the Great Seal.⁴ As the year cut on the second stone was in the reign of his daughter Elizabeth, whose arms were borne in a similar manner, and as the two earls, to whom the shields on the first and fourth stones are ascribed, lived and also died during that reign, there is every reason to believe that the arms on the third stone are intended for those of Queen Elizabeth.

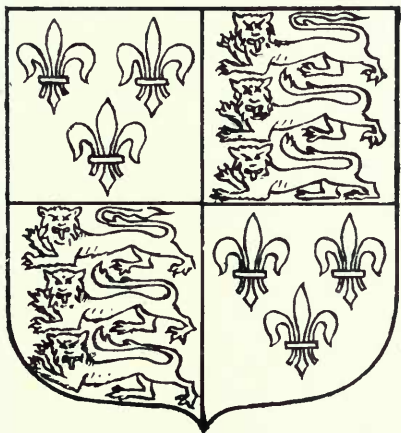
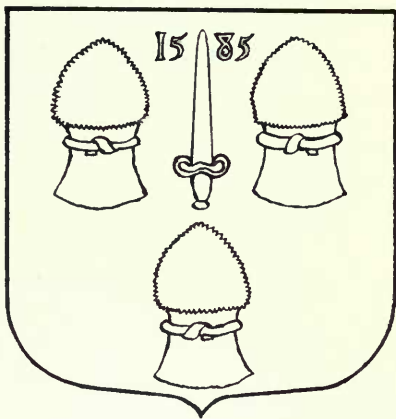
³ The correct arms are gules, three lions passant guardant in pale or (England), impaling azure, three garbs or, two and one (Blunderville), both dimidiated. One of the Randle Holmes hazarded an opinion that these arms were granted to the city when Henry III. assumed the earldom of Chester, and added that they certainly were in use as far back as the reign of Edward III. They were confirmed in 1580 and 1613, and in the earlier of these two confirmations, mention is made of the ancient arms having been nearly lost by time and negligence (Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*, Helsby's edition, Vol. I., pp. 203. and 204). The third Randle Holme mentions a variation of the incorrect arms, as in use. "The auncient coate and signet or seale for petty matters" was azure, two garbs or, and a sword erect argent, hilt and pommel of the second, "which vpon better Inquisition was altered and made a Sword betw : three garbs which now the Maior used to seale withall." He goes on to say that "afterwards by the gift of Henry the Seauenth when he made it a distinct county of it selfe, he gaue vs halfe England and halfe the Earldome conioyned" (Randle Holme's *Academy of Armory*, Vol. II., (Roxburgh Club, 1905), p. 369), apparently overlooking the fact that a namesake had assigned the grant of the arms to a much earlier period.

⁴ Burke's *General Armory* (1884 edition), p. lviii.

1



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4

B

Fourth stone. Quarterly of eight. 1. [Or], two lions passant in pale [azure]—Somery. 2. [Gules], a cinquefoil [ermine], in chief a crescent [. . .] for difference—Paganel, baron of Dudley.⁵ 3. Barry of six [argent and azure], in chief [three torteaux], a label of three points [ermine]—Grey, lord Lisle. 4. [Azure], a lion rampant within a bordure [or]—Belesme. 5. [Gules], a fesse between six crosses [crosslet or]—Beauchamp. 6. Chequy [or and azure], a chevron ermine—Newburgh. 7. [Or], a saltire between four martlets [sable]—Guildford. 8. Barry of six [or and gules], on a chief [of the first] three pallets [between two esquierres of the second] over all an inescutcheon [? argent]—Mortimer; in the fess point a crescent [. . .] for difference. This shield also is encircled by the Garter, and surmounted by an earl's coronet. The arms of Dudley do not appear, but there is no doubt that the shield is intended for that of the celebrated Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, who was descended from the Somerys, and whose father bore the arms of that family in the first quarter of his shield as his son did in this instance.⁶

The presence of the Royal arms and those of the city do not call for any explanation, and the following notes have been written with the intention of shewing that there was considerable reason why the shields of the two Earls should be included in the series.

Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, needs little introduction in these pages. Endowed with a goodly

⁵ Bank's *Dormant Peerage* (1807).

⁶ Blazons of the shields of the Dudleys (John, Duke of Northumberland; Ambrose, Earl of Warwick; and Robert, Earl of Leicester) with numerous quarterings are given in *The Official Baronage of England* by J. E. Doyle (London, 1886), and *Le Blason des Armoiries* by Hierome de Bara (Paris, 1581).

person, he was brought at the age of sixteen into the society of his future queen, and gained a permanent ascendancy over her heart, if not her head, which served him well throughout his life, and, perhaps, saved him from a fate similar to that which had overtaken his grandfather, father, and brother. There is little to admire in the character of Robert Dudley, and it may well be summed up in these few words: "Love of display and self-indulgence" were his "most striking personal characteristics. By his extravagant dress, his gluttony, and his cruel treatment of women, he was best known to his contemporaries."⁷

On the 2nd July, 1565, this favourite of fortune was appointed Chamberlain of Chester. The trade of the city was in a much depressed condition, and the citizens, apparently some time afterwards, appealed to Leicester for assistance. In response to this, on the 14th May, 1569, he addressed a letter to Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, Vice-President of Wales, Sir John Throckmorton, Justice of Chester, and others, pointing out the decayed and threatened state of the city, and directing them to confer with the Mayor and his brethren, at their best convenience. The commissioners do not appear to have exercised any undue haste, but, on the 27th April, 1571, nearly two years later, made a report confirming the state of affairs as reported by the citizens, and expressing an opinion that Leicester would "woorke an honorable and charitable deed to help to reforme their decaye."⁸

Another appeal was made to the Chamberlain by the Corporation of Chester in 1576 for a grant out of the

⁷ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*, Dudley, Robert.

⁸ Morris' *Chester during the Plantagenet and Tudor Periods*, p. 75.

Customs to help on the work in progress at the new haven, but with what success does not appear.⁹

Two years later the Earl had reason to remonstrate with the mayor and justices of Chester on their treatment of prisoners in the gaol. The letter was dated 28th June, 1578, and in it the writer drew a pitiful picture of the sufferings of the unfortunate people by starvation, and prayed that the matter might have "good consideraçon."¹⁰

Shortly after this, Leicester figured in a case which cannot have increased any respect entertained for him by either party. The Cotton family, by an omission in the charter of Henry VIII. to the Cathedral, had obtained possession of a considerable portion of the endowment. At this time, the alienation was opposed, and the litigation which followed, and in which Leicester was officially concerned, was in favour of the cause of the Dean and Chapter. Tradition says very positively that, at this point, the Earl of Leicester was bribed with six years' rent of the lands in dispute, and he found means of bringing an award unfavourable to the plaintiffs.¹¹

According to Canon Raines, the Rev. Robert Rogers, the antiquary, was appointed Archdeacon of Chester in 1580; the presentation being in the hands of the Earl of Leicester.¹²

In the autumn of 1581 Leicester used his influence to procure the freedom of Chester and the office of

⁹ Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 461.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 81.

¹¹ Ormerod, *op. cit.*, Vol. I., pp. 254, 255.

¹² *Cheshire Sheaf* (1st Series), Vol. II., p. 165.

swordbearer for his servant Robert Dod, and, at the assembly of the Corporation held on the 3rd November, the request was acceded to "in respect of his [Leicester's] contynuall countenance and goodness towards this citie." ¹³

On the 3rd June, 1583, the Earl of Leicester visited Chester. He was accompanied by the Earls of Derby and Essex, and Lord North, and was attended by most of the gentlemen of the shire with their whole train, "and as it was thought they were in the whole 1,500 horse." ¹⁴ At the official reception by the Mayor and Sheriffs, "in their scarlett and velvett coats," a speech, composed by William Knight, Clerk of the Pentice, was delivered at the High Cross ¹⁵ by Thomas Thropp, a youth, who appears to have allowed his personal preference to overrule the requirement of the moment, for not only did he direct his address to my Lord of Derby, but ended it by saying "God blesse the Earle of Darby," and, naturally, "it was not well liked of" by the guest of the day. On the 4th "M^r Mayor did dyne them all at his howse," and afterwards banquetted "the iii yorles in pendis"; Leicester being presented with "a fayer standing silver duble-gilt cupp" ¹⁶ containing forty angels. The visitors were lodged in the Bishop's Palace, and the almost regal honours with which the Queen's favourite was received created great excitement in the city and neighbourhood. "For more security of the cittie, because great resort was to see the earl," night watches "of honest citizens in har-

¹³ Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 450.

¹⁴ Ormerod, *op. cit.*, Vol. I., p. 236.

¹⁵ Or from St. Bridget's Churchyard. (*Vide* Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 82).

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 81.

nesse" to the number of seventy-two were ordered, and the City Companies in their best apparel were instructed to wait upon the Mayor at the High Cross on the Wednesday.^{16a} The Dean and Chapter also expended "xvijs. ijd." on "boughes rishes and other thinges, at what time the Earle of Leicester came hither."¹⁷

Another recommendation for the freedom of the city from the Earl was considered by the Corporation on 26th June, 1584. In spite of the earnest request for the admission of Mr. John Edwards, of London, the assembly could not see their way to comply, as it was felt that Edwards "beinge a man of greate substaunce . . . would take all the wholle trade unto his owne haundes, & thereby undoe the reste of the sayde occupacions." A reply was accordingly sent "signefying the same & moste humblie beseeching his Ho[nour's] patience."¹⁸

About the same time, the Earl of Leicester wished the citizens to elect Mr. Peter Warburton as one of their members, but they shewed their independence by choosing "M^r Ric' Birkenhed and M^r Ric' Bavand, Ald', the ii citizens for this city."¹⁹

In this year an "Association for the Defence of her Majesty's person" was formed, Leicester being the instigator. It was chiefly aimed at the Romanist nobles, some of whom were entangling themselves in

^{16a} Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 81.

¹⁷ Treasurers' Accounts, 1584 (*sic*). *Cheshire Sheaf* (1st Series), Vol. I., p. 117.

¹⁸ Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 450.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 191.

treasonable plots, owing to the treatment meted out to the exiled Scottish queen. In connection with this there is a letter, dated 6th November, 1584, in which the Earl of Derby, writing from Northwich to the Chamberlain, describes the "zeal and cheerfulness" with which the gentlemen of Lancashire and Cheshire joined the Association.²⁰

At this time, the anonymous pamphlet known as *Leicester's Commonwealth*, and portraying that noble in a very unflattering manner, caused much anxiety and indignation in high places, and, in June, 1585, the Queen issued an Order in Council forbidding the circulation of the work, and asserting on her own knowledge that the charges it contained were false.²¹ In the same month a letter was addressed by the Lords of the Privy Council to the Lord Strange, the Bishop of Chester, and the rest of the Justices of the Peace in the Counties of Lancaster and Chester, "somewhat blaming them for their Negligence in not strictly observing the Queen's Proclamation for suppressinge certen sedicious & traiterous Bookes & Labelles, and due Punishment of Authours, Spreaders abroad, and Deteyners of them. And moreover, requiring them to exert themselves to the utmost, upon occasion of the dispersing a moste malicious, false, and sclaunderous Libel, published against the Earl of Leicester."²² Several months later, on the 14th February, 1586-7, Henry, Earl of Derby, wrote to the High Sheriff, his Deputy Lieutenants, and the rest of the Justices of the Peace in Cheshire, "requiring them to assemble themselves together, & take present

²⁰ *Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1581-90, and Cheshire Sheaf* (3rd Series) Vol. V., p. 83.

²¹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*, Dudley, Robert.

²² *Harleian MS.*, 1926, f. 59. (*Calendar*).

Course for suppressinge false Rumours, & Punishment of the Authours thereof." A similar letter, dated twelve days later, was written to "divers of the principal Gentlemen in Cheshire."²³ The author of the article on the Earl of Leicester, in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, points out that "as an historical authority it" [the pamphlet] "certainly has no weight, but as an indication of the hatred that Leicester had succeeded in exciting, it is of importance to his biographer."

Not very long after this, in 1588, "Robert, Earl of Leicester, Chief Chamberlain of Chester, died, and the Earl of Derby did succeed him in his place."²⁴

A representation of the "bear and billet" occupies a panel on the front of Bishop Lloyd's Palace in Watergate Street, and the same crest is the sign of a licensed house in Lower Bridge Street, Chester.²⁵ It seems to indicate some association with Robert Dudley or his family, as he himself bore the crest of a muzzled bear leaning on a ragged staff, and his brother, Ambrose, Earl of Warwick, did the same. Doubtless they adopted the device by reason of their claimed descent from the Newburghs, Norman Earls of Warwick, who are said to have adopted it from Turchil, a Saxon holder of the earldom, descended from the chivalrous Guy.²⁶

²³ *Harleian MS.*, 1926, ff. 75b and 76. (*Calendar*).

²⁴ Ormerod, *op. cit.*, Vol. I., p. 237.

²⁵ The fine timber front of the "Bear and Billet" Inn bears the initials "H.H." and the date "1664," which is, of course, considerably after the time of Robert Dudley. The writer went over the whole of the house recently, but he was informed that the oak panelling had been removed some twenty years before, and there is now nothing worthy of special notice.

²⁶ Burke's *General Armory* (1884 edition), Greville, Earl of Brooke and Warwick.

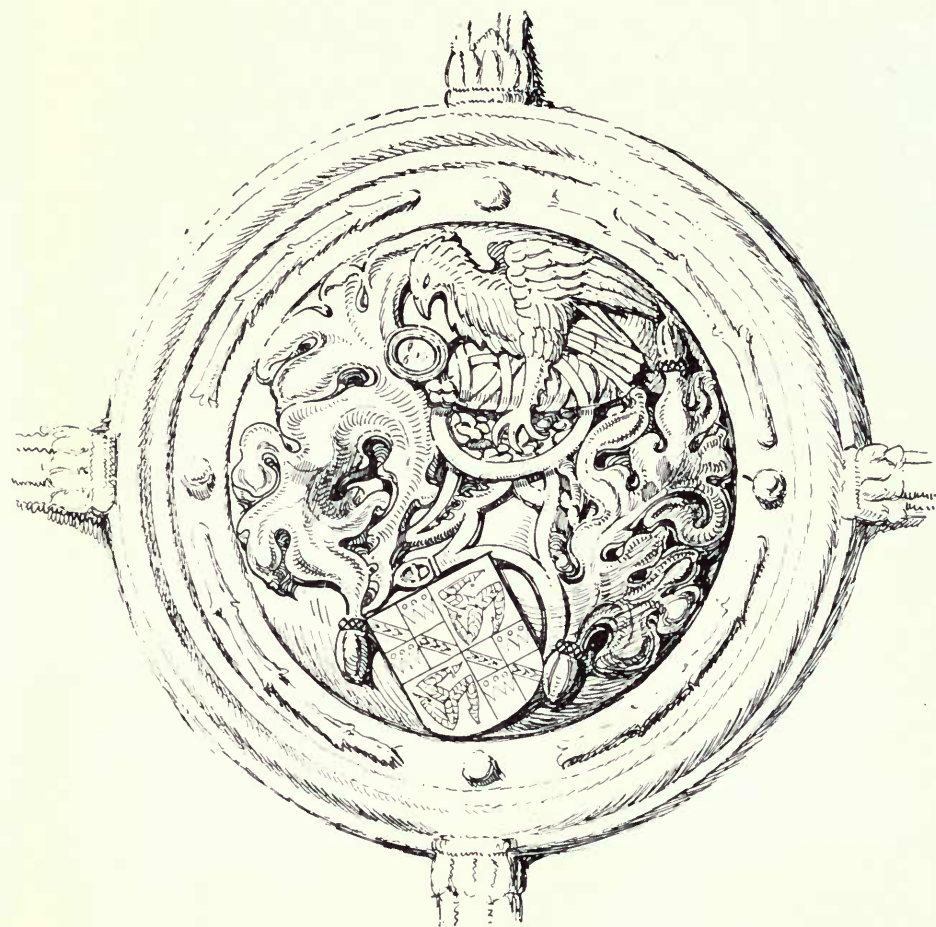
A further sign of the association of the Dudleys with the neighbourhood may be seen on the walls of Trevalyn, Rossett, where sixteen quarterings of Robert Dudley appear in stone.

The Earls of Derby are, as is well known, descended from a younger branch of the ancient family seated at Storeton and Hooton, and have been intimately connected with Cheshire and its county town for a very long period. For several generations the Earls had the custody of the Water-gate at Chester;²⁷ the serjeantcy of which appears to have passed to them with the barony of Montalt and the advowson of Holy Trinity. The association of the family with the western portion of the city is further recalled by the present day place-names of Stanley-street and Stanley-place, and also Atholl-place in Crook-street; the Dukes of Atholl being descendants in the female line, and successors to the lordship of Man. The name of Derby-place in Hoole may also be significant.

The Stanleys of Lathom and their descendants, the Earls of Derby, bore, as a crest, an eagle preying on a swaddled child; quite distinct from the crest of the Stanleys of Hooton. It was adopted from the Lathom family; the heiress of whom married an ancestor of the first Earl of Derby. A stone representation of this crest is carved on a boss, probably fixed about 1530, in the north walk of the Cathedral Cloisters.²⁸ Another sign of the connection of the Earls with the Abbey was "the Darby-chamber" in the Abbot's

²⁷ Ormerod, *op. cit.*, Vol. I., p. 358.

²⁸ An illustration of this boss is given in this Society's Proceedings (New Series, Vol. IX., against p. 10), but the eagle is there erroneously called a pelican.



Armorial achievement of the Earls of Derby
on a boss at Boughton House, Chester

T. A. Williams, del.

house.²⁹ Both indications were probably due to the office of seneschal of the Abbey, at the time mentioned, being vested in the then Earl of Derby.³⁰

About 1540 there was a tavern in Northgate Street called the "Eagle and Child," at which the Duttons of Dutton held their court, and this seems to have been identical with the lath and plaster inn situated in Shoemakers-row, and known in 1856 as the "Legs of Man"; the connection between the two signs being obvious. At the later date the building had no external points of interest, but inside there was an open gallery running partially round the chief kitchen. The house was then in a very decayed condition, and shortly afterwards the licence was transferred, and the greater portion of the structure rebuilt and turned into a shop.³¹ An illustration in Hemingway's *History of Chester* shews the inn as it appeared in the earlier part of the nineteenth century.³²

Not far from the point at which the Christleton Road and Sandy Lane diverge, stands, in an extensive garden, the large and rambling old building known as Boughton House, and now divided into three residences. Some little time ago it was the property of the Cloughs, and previously had belonged to the Uniackes. The present owner, Mr. John Guy, told the writer that the entrance to the house was originally through a porch, on each side of which were stone seats, and that there was a coat of arms above the

²⁹ Lysons' *History of Cheshire*, p. 452, and *Harleian MS.* 2073.

³⁰ Ormerod, *op. cit.*, Vol. I., p. 254.

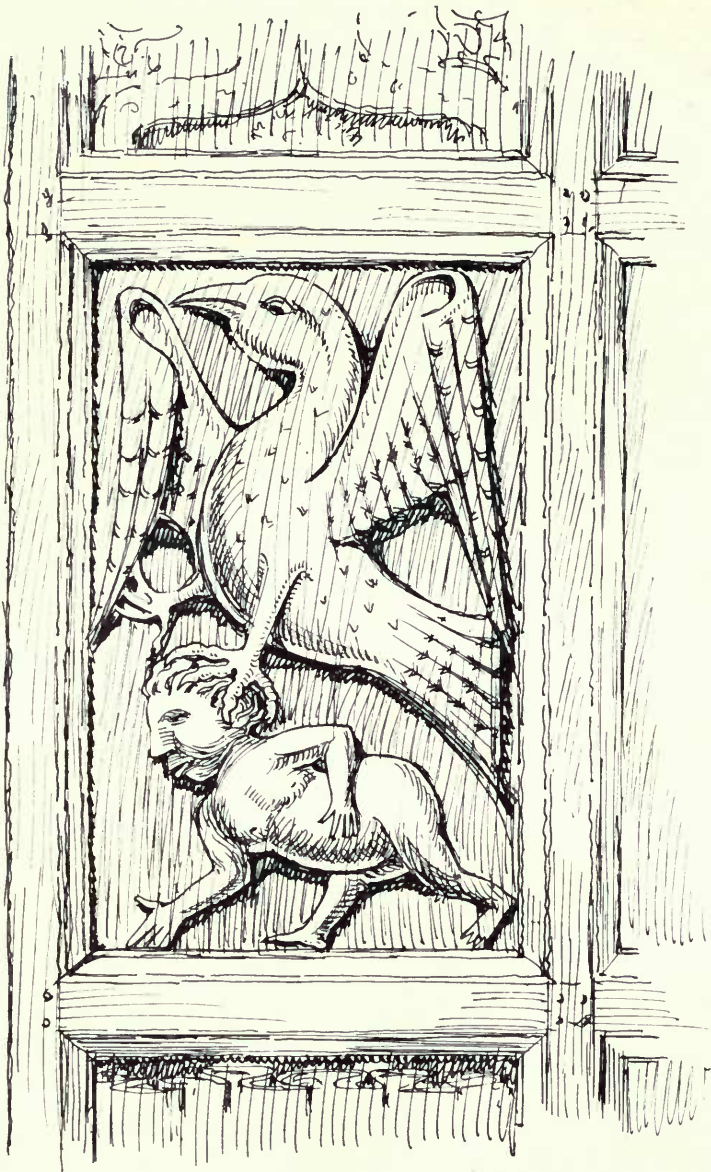
³¹ This Society's Proceedings (Old Series), Vol. II., p. 97.

³² Vol. II., p. 13. In 1751 there was an "Eagle and Child" on the south side of Foregate Street (*Chester Courant*, 5th February, 1751).

porch. Within recent years, but before the property came into Mr. Guy's possession, the porch was demolished, and no doubt the shield shared the same fate, as a new front, and a number of additional rooms were then built. The house is another link between the Earls of Derby and Chester, as, on the ceiling of one of the passages, there is a carved and painted boss of oak, bearing a shield with the arms of Stanley, quartering Lathom, and the Isle of Man,³³ and, among elaborate mantling, on a helm, is the crest of the eagle and child. The workmanship of the achievement is probably much earlier than the time of Elizabeth. The house is said to have been built on or near the site of the old leper Hospital of St. Giles; the present burial ground having extended considerably further to the west in quite modern times. Several years ago, a "hidie hole" was found in the chimney of the dining room, and a long, low chamber, without any trace of door or window, above the kitchen. It has been suggested that the kitchen was the dining hall, and that some owner, considering it too lofty, cut off four feet of the height. Servants, it is said, would not venture along the passage that ran by this room after dark, even before the hidden chamber was discovered. The excuse given was, of course, fear of a ghost which, in this instance, took the form of a crying baby, and, when the chamber was found, the story went round that the baby had been bricked up therein. The representation of the swaddled child on the ceiling and imagination are, perhaps, quite sufficient to account for the ghost and the legend. There are cellars under the stables in

³³ Quarterly. First and fourth grand quarters—Quarterly: Stanley and Lathom; second and third grand quarters—The Isle of Man.





"Eagle and Child" on an oak panel
in St. John's Rectory, Chester

Christleton-road, and under an adjoining house, and tradition tells of a wounded Cavalier officer hiding, or being hidden, in the stable cellar, and being brutally murdered there by the Parliamentarians, during the skirmish at Boughton which resulted in the Royalist outposts being driven in.³⁴

The presence of the armorial boss at Boughton House, and the implied connection between that building and the Earls of Derby is one worthy of some consideration. Tradition assigns the interesting old building in Watergate-street to the Earls as their town house, but the tradition lacks confirmation, and there is nothing in the house itself, with its date "1591," beyond its nearness to the Water-gate, to lend strength to this view. On the other hand, the size of the old house at Boughton seems much more consistent with the dignity of the Earls of Derby,³⁵ but it must not be overlooked that, during the Civil War, Spital Boughton chapel is said to have been pulled down, and "*all the houses thereabouts*; many other houses and barns in that neighbourhood were likewise destroyed to prevent the enemy from making lodgments in these buildings to the annoyance of the city."³⁶

A very interesting representation of the eagle and child is carved on one of twelve oak panels which form the overmantel of the present study in St. John's Rectory. The workmanship appears to be Flemish, and the carver's treatment of the crest is most uncon-

³⁴ Mr. F. N. Clough has supplied much of the information respecting Boughton House.

³⁵ At a later date the Earls of Derby built a house on land granted to them in 1627 below St. John's Church. *Cheshire Sheaf* (1st Series), Vol. I., p. 157, and III., p. 214.

³⁶ Hemingway's *History of Chester*, Vol. I., p. 170.

ventional. Three of the panels contain representations of male and female busts in clothing of the Tudor period, and variants of the "linen pattern" occupy the remainder.

In 1585 the representative of the Derbys was Henry Stanley, the fourth earl, a man closely connected with the Courts of the three children of Henry VIII., who occupied the throne. Stanley married a granddaughter of Mary Tudor, younger sister of Henry VIII. and successively wife to Louis XII. of France and Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. It will thus be seen that Stanley's wife had, like her cousin, Lady Jane Grey, who was Robert Dudley's sister-in-law, some claim to the throne, but these claims were kept in the background, and the Earl of Derby and his wife never suffered any molestation on their account.⁸⁷

Henry Stanley, Lord Strange, succeeded his father to the earldom in 1572, and in the same year the Treasurers of Chester record eighteen and sixpence allowed "for a banket made for my Lord Strange at Shotwicke."⁸⁸

In July, 1577, the Earl, in company with Lord Monteagle,⁸⁹ Ferdinando, Lord Strange, and "many others, came to this city, and were honourably received by the mayor and citizens."⁴⁰ The Mayor "enterteyned the Earle of Darbie two nightes at his howse, he caused the Shepardes Playe to be played at the Hie Crosse"⁴¹

⁸⁷ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*, Stanley, Henry.

⁸⁸ Morris *op. cit.*, p. 80.

⁸⁹ Descended from another branch of the Stanleys.

⁴⁰ Ormerod, *op. cit.*, Vol. I., p. 236.

⁴¹ *Cheshire Sheaf* (3rd Series), Vol. IX., p. 7.

by the Painters' and Glaziers' Company,⁴² "with other triumphes on the Roode Deay."⁴¹

Apparently another visit was paid to the city in the following summer. On this occasion, the Mayor "entertained for 4 dayes together Lord Harrye, Earle of Darbie, the Earle of Wormwoode [*sic*],⁴³ the Earle of Killdare, the Lorde Strange and the Lord Montegle being very honorably received."⁴¹ In the Treasurer's Accounts under date 17th August, 1578, payment for a "banket to Lord Derbye and Mr Talbot" is recorded.⁴²

As already mentioned, the Earl of Derby visited Chester in 1583 in the company of the Earl of Leicester. On the 17th January following, the Secretary of State directed the Earl of Derby and the Bishop of Chester to apprehend a suspected recusant. The culprit appealed to the Lord Chancellor, Sir Christopher Hatton, and with some success, as he communicated with the Earl and the Bishop on the 23rd June, 1584, requesting them to shew some favour to the said recusant and to renew his bonds; a course with which they appear to have complied.⁴⁴

Another example of the interference of nobles with official appointments is that of the Earl of Derby, supported by Sir Francis Walsingham and the Lords of

⁴¹ *Cheshire Sheaf* (3rd Series), Vol. IX., p. 7.

⁴² Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 80.

⁴³ Can this possibly be intended for "Ormonde," and, if so, is satire or ignorance responsible for the misnomer? This earldom was at the time in question held by Thomas, tenth in the succession, who was known as the "Black Earl" by reason of his dark complexion. He was the first of his family to adopt Protestantism, and was high in favour with the Queen.

⁴⁴ *Cheshire Sheaf* (1st Series), Vol. II., p. 320

the Privy Council, who unsuccessfully strove to force on the city the appointment of Peter Proby, as clerk of the Pentice.⁴⁵

Some reference has already been made of the Earl of Derby in the notes on the Earl of Leicester for the years 1584 and 1585. In the first year he is shewn to have supported Leicester's scheme for the protection of the Queen, and in the second he was called upon to carry out the Queen's will in the support of Leicester.

On 27th September, 1585, the Corporation of Chester declined to admit to the freedom of the city a nominee of the Earl of Derby who presented a letter from that noble.⁴⁶

In this year, Ferdinando, Lord Strange, was empowered by his father to act as deputy lieutenant for Lancashire and Cheshire, and in 1587 was admitted a freeman and chosen alderman, "who received the same very honourably and made a rich banquet in the Pentice."⁴⁷

In 1588, the office of Chamberlain of Chester devolved on Henry, Earl of Derby, and it is recorded that he "came to this Cittye and was most honorable received by the Cittizens"⁴⁸ in the same year, and also that a request was made by the Corporation through the Earl and Mr. Secretary Walsingham for the custom called "Dover Pier" towards "the finishinge of the New Haven and maintenance of the decaied walls."⁴⁹

⁴⁵ Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 191.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 451.

⁴⁷ Ormerod, *op. cit.*, Vol. I., p. 237.

⁴⁸ *Cheshire Sheaf* (3rd Series), Vol. IX., p. 15.

⁴⁹ Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 461.

Henry, Earl of Derby, died in 1592, after having held office as Chamberlain for four years, and an annalist of Chester, recording his death, makes the remark: "he loved this Cittye verye much."⁵⁰

The Collegiate Church of St. John had hardly attained to its majestic dimensions when a series of disasters reduced the building by rapid stages to what was little more than a ruin. In 1470 the beautiful east end of the Church was destroyed by the fall of the Central Tower. Then followed the troubles of the Reformation, during which the establishment of the College was dissolved, its revenues confiscated, and a considerable portion of the Church dismantled. Finally, the west end was destroyed by falls of the North West Tower in 1572 and 1574.

In 1547 Dean Walker resigned, and the King's Commissioners, in the certificate of their survey, considered that the body of the Church was sufficient for the use of the parishioners, and that the Chancel with the two Aisles [? Transepts] might well be reserved for the King. In accordance with this recommendation, the Nave with its Aisles was devoted to parish use, but the fabric appears to have been retained by the Crown until 1581, when the Queen formally handed it over to the parishioners. Restoration was then taken in hand, and the parishioners "began to build up some part of it" [the Church] "again, and cut off all the Chappels above the Quire."⁵¹ Walls were built across the west end, across the two Transepts level with the Aisles, and across the east end, one bay to the east of the Transepts, practically reducing the Church to its

⁵⁰ *Cheshire Sheaf* (3rd Series), Vol. IX., p. 17.

⁵¹ *King's Vale Royal*, p. 202.

present dimensions. This curtailment is shewn in a plan, dated 1589, in the British Museum, and in the references accompanying the plan the new work at the east end is specially mentioned: "The quire of the church, wherein standeth a very fair window lately built with all that east end of the wall." In 1585 Queen Elizabeth granted the impropriate rectory and the advowson of the Church to Sir Christopher Hatton, her vice-chamberlain, and afterwards Lord Chancellor, who, on the following day, conveyed the same to Alexander King, gentleman.

The foregoing notes are sufficient to shew that the Earls of Leicester and Derby not only held local official positions, but that they were more or less personally acquainted with the city. One instance only is given of a visit to it by Leicester, but it is probable this was by no means an isolated occasion, especially when his connection with the adjoining county of Denbigh is remembered. It therefore seems reasonable that the arms of the two Earls, with those of the Queen and this city, should figure on the new walls built at St. John's either in commemoration of the grant of the fabric or of the advowson. It is, of course, very possible that the Earls assisted in obtaining the grant. They were great people and possessed of much influence, and in the particular year, 1585, Stanley had been made a privy councillor, and Dudley appointed to the chief command of the army sent to the Low Countries. There was thus ample reason why some compliment should be paid to both. That to the Earl of Derby would, no doubt, be spontaneously rendered as a tribute to his personal popularity; while in the case of the Earl of Leicester, the expediency of the proceeding would deserve consideration, as no more acceptable way of

pleasing their Protestant sovereign could be devised than by honouring her favourite, especially at a time when he was under the cloud caused by the publication of *Leicester's Commonwealth*.

After the lapse of years it is perhaps impossible to determine satisfactorily the position originally occupied by the four stones, but it seems probable that they were built into the wall at the east end of the present Chancel, close to which they still remain. The wall built in the late years of the sixteenth century was not seriously interfered with until 1813, when the Chancel underwent a thorough repair, and a completely new east window was introduced at the expense of Earl Grosvenor. Hanshall very truly remarks: "It often occurs that repairs are attended with partial destruction to what is in existence; and it occurred so in this instance."⁵² The four stones may have been relegated to their present position on this occasion, or may have survived the upheaval until the present east window was inserted in 1863, when much of the east wall was rebuilt, but as those connected with the work have all since died, no enlightenment on this point now appears possible.

[Sincere thanks are due to Mr. E. C. Brown, the Rev. Canon S. Cooper Scott, Mr. T. Norman Clough, Mr. John Guy, Mr. John Hewitt, and Mr. J. F. Weeks, for very welcome assistance and information. Special mention should be made of Mr. T. A. Williams, who has presented artistic drawings for two of the illustrations, and of Mr. J. Paul Rylands, F.S.A., whose heraldic knowledge has been so generously placed at the disposal of the Author.]

² *History of the County Palatine of Chester*, p. 249.



Exhibitional Evening



WELL-ATTENDED MEETING of the Society was held on Tuesday evening, January 21st, 1913, at the Grosvenor Museum. A varied and interesting exhibition, the idea of which had originated with the Mayor (Mr. H. B. Dutton), was made by a number of members, the objects including many local pictures and engravings and a collection of old Chester silver shewn by Messrs. Lowe, among which was a Chester Sheriff's pocket mace of 1766. The Society's collections were also on view both in the Museum and the Library.

At the outset, the Archdeacon of Chester gave some interesting particulars as to the work at present being done at the Cathedral, with special reference to the cloisters, upon which he has kindly undertaken to read a Paper in the Session of 1913-14.

The Mayor drew attention to the last report of the "Inspector of Ancient Monuments" and the description therein of "'The Gateway Tower,' formerly called 'Julius Cæsar's Tower,' and now erroneously called 'The Keep.'" The chief fault he found with the report was that the writers did not consult the Chester Archæological Society for information. They probably obtained it from a sergeant in charge, or perhaps from some old guide book, and he suggested that if in future the inspector was going to schedule any more monuments in relation to Chester, that Society would like to have some say upon it. After

referring to an account of Dr. Johnson's journey into North Wales in 1770, which contained a reference to Chester, the Mayor explained a series of Chester illustrations which were exhibited by Mr. G. F. Adams, chiefly depicting the fires at the old Exchange and at the Queen Hotel, and an interesting view of the bridge over the Dee just after the railway accident. He also gave details respecting interesting maps of the making of the Grosvenor Bridge, which shewed that originally it was intended that the road should be straight instead of at an angle as at present, the alteration being made in order to obtain good foundations for the bridge. He also called attention to some pictures which were interesting as being the work of the local artist, Musgrove. Some water colours belonging to Mr. W. W. Tasker shewing old buildings in Chester in the "forties" were pointed out; other silver from Messrs. Butt, who were the successors of Richard Richardson, famed for their church plate throughout North Wales; Randle Holme's *Academy of Armory*, said to be the first book printed in Chester; a spur, said to have been used at Rowton Moor; two pewter plates, which belonged to him (the Mayor); and a map of Chester, dated 1750, which was interesting as shewing the old names of streets and the houses of the chief inhabitants.

Mr. Frank Simpson drew attention to the subject of the better description of the Society's exhibits. He suggested that a descriptive label be attached to each exhibit, especially their collection of Roman inscribed and other stones. Those particulars would not only encourage interest, but be educational, and, he was sure, would be the means by which further gifts of local objects would be presented to the Society.

Prof. R. Newstead, referring to Mr. Simpson's suggestion, said it was decided when the Society first came into that building that the inscribed stones and other exhibits should not be labelled, but should each bear a number

corresponding to the number in the catalogue. The Society went to a great expense to publish an illustrated catalogue, and were anxious to sell as many copies as they could. That was the reason the monuments were not fully described.

Mr. James Hall made some observations on the contents of the Library, drawing attention to some of the rarer books. He remarked that the Society did not possess any original editions of the great master antiquaries, and their Library was a very local one.

Mr. W. W. Tasker explained his exhibits, which included the apprentice's biscuits, a relic of a ceremony formerly observed of breaking a biscuit over the head of a boy on entering his apprenticeship.

Mr. W. E. Brown described a Roman lamp and a Roman glass bead, which he had found in his garden.

Mr. Pelham Elphick exhibited and described a constable's staff used in the Chester Fenian Raid, a Roman vase, and an Elizabethan cup excavated in Foregate Street, a brass inkstand originally owned by Tom Hughes, the author of *Tom Brown's Schooldays*, and several drawings.

Mr. C. H. Minshull shewed some of Mr. Cox's sketches, representing some former phases of Chester's history, and other views.

Among several interesting objects shewn by Mr. Simpson, was an old clock by Joseph Smith, of Chester. Other contributors of exhibits included Mr. J. Barnett, Dr. Lees, and Alderman W. Vernon.

On behalf of the Society, the Archdeacon and Prof. Newstead thanked all who had contributed to the exhibition, and especially the Mayor.

Mr. Frank Simpson, F.S.A., Hon. Secretary, with the assistance of Mr. W. W. Tasker, was responsible for the collection and arrangement of the exhibits.



[By permission of the Colchester Corporation.]

Tombstone of M. Favonius Facilis, Centurion of Legio XX.
Colchester Museum ($\frac{1}{13}$ size).



A Roman Centurion of the 20th Legion

BY HENRY TAYLOR, F.S.A.



HAVING been called several times of late into the neighbourhood of Colchester, on business matters, I have on each occasion availed myself of the opportunity to visit the admirably arranged Museum of Local Antiquities in the Castle of that ancient town, which fortress, dating from the Saxon Era, was built, in a great measure with the bricks, tiles, and other remains obtained from the Roman city of Camulodunum.

In this Museum there is a beautifully sculptured tombstone, which is an excellent representation of a Centurion in costume, or rather (as we say to-day when speaking of a soldier) in uniform. The inscription, at the foot of this tombstone, shows that it was erected to the memory of one Marcus Favonius Facilis, a Centurion of the celebrated Legio XX, which during the whole period of the Roman occupation of this country had its headquarters at Chester, the Roman Deva. It formed part of the original invasion in A.D. 43, and it probably remained here so long as

Roman troops remained in Britain. Some of its memorials found in the north-east wall of Chester in 1887 appear to date not very long after A.D. 43.¹

I thought it might be interesting to our members to see, possibly a rough likeness, but, at any rate, the full dress uniform of a Roman Centurion, who probably was here in Chester with his Legion, in the first century of the Christian Era. I therefore asked the Corporation of Colchester to allow me to photograph the tombstone. They not only consented, but, to save the expense of a special photograph, have through their Curator, Mr. A. G. Wright, kindly lent our Society one of their blocks illustrating the tombstone, which has enabled me to present an illustration of it with this description.

The tombstone was found in August, 1868, outside the Roman Wall of Colchester, on the Lexden road, in a cemetery mainly of first century graves. "The stone, which seems to be a fine oolite, is 6 feet high, 2 feet 4 inches wide and 8 inches thick. It had, unfortunately, been broken; but as the upper part, with the figure, had fallen on its face, it is still in fine preservation. The figure stands in a sort of recess cut into the stone to the depth of nearly six inches. The lower portion, with the inscription, was standing two feet and a half below the surface and facing north."² There is, I understand, no doubt about either the text of the inscription or its meaning.

"M[arcus] Favon[ius] M[arci] F[ilius] Pol[lia]
Facilis > (=Centurio) Leg[ionis] x x (=Vicesimae)—
Verecundus et Novicius Lib[erti] Posuerunt—H[ic]
s[itus] e[st]."

¹ See Vol. VII. (N.S.), *Chester Arch. Society's Transactions*, pp. 10 and 42.

² *Proceedings, Society of Antiquaries*, iv. (1869), 271.

The letters are deeply cut and the words are divided by triangular stops. Professor Hübner remarked that the absence of the letters V.V. [Valeria Victrix], the usual titles of the 20th Legion, might possibly indicate an early date. Translated into English the inscription runs thus:—

“Marcus Favonius Facilis, son of Marcus, of the Pollian tribe, a Centurion of the 20th Legion. Verecundus and Novicius, his Freedmen, placed it. He lies here.”

Mr. Henry Laver, F.S.A., of Colchester, calls my attention to the fact that the Freedmen have placed their names in full on the inscription, whereas those of the Centurion are contracted, and he remarks: “Man the world over is the same.” At the foot of the tombstone was found a cylindrical leaden cist, with a lid, thirteen inches high by ten inches in diameter, containing burnt bones, a lachrymatory bottle of pale green transparent glass, and an exquisite drinking cup of greyish pottery, as thin as a sixpence.

Our member Dr. F. Haverfield, F.S.A., Camden Professor of Ancient History in the University of Oxford, and Mr. H. Stuart Jones, M.A., have recently published a paper in the *Journal of The Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies*, on “Some representative examples of Romano-British sculpture.” Referring to this tombstone they say: “As may be inferred from the find-spot and from the lettering and other details of the inscription the tombstone³ is of

³ *Arch. Zeitung*, 1868, p. 112; *Essex Arch. Tran.*, 1873, pp. 88, 161; *Journ. Arch. Assoc.*, 1870, p. 240; *Proc. Soc. Antiq.*, IV., 1869, p. 271; C.I.L., VII., n. 90; figured also in a good many works.

the first century. It bears, indeed, no *dona militaria* like the well-known tombstone of Caelius, now at Bonn, but it renders accurately the equipment of the Centurion. The *vitis* of his rank is in the right hand. The cuirass is of leather with two rows of flaps at the waist and on the sleeves,⁴ and is confined by a belt, *cingulum*, doubtless also of leather, which is adorned with bronze plaques. The greaves, *ocreae*, which marked off the centurion from the private soldier, are also indicated; the shoes seem to be *calcei*. The left-hand grasps the *gladius* by the hilt; in addition, a dagger or *parazonium* is attached to the belt.⁵ The monuments show that it was worn by all grades of soldiers. The centurion's equipment is completed by the *sagum* which, like the *paludamentum* on countless imperial statues, forms a bunch of drapery on the left shoulder and passes over the left arm. This motive, which is derived from the Attic art of the fourth century B.C.,⁶ illustrates the conventional character of Roman art in virtue of its dependence on classical tradition."

I thank the Society of Roman Studies for allowing me, with Dr. Haverfield's consent, to give this able

⁴ A similar cuirass, with three rows of flaps, is worn by Caelius. The *lorica squamata*, which appears on the reliefs of L. Sertorius Festus (Lindenschmidt, *Tracht und Bewaffnung*, pl. 1, 6), and of T. Calidius Severus (A.E.M., V. p. 206), must have been a short-lived, or never very usual, fashion.

⁵ The name is attested by Martial, Vol. XIV. p. 32, whose words "Arma tribuniciam cingere digna latus" need not be taken to confine its use to the officer; compare Mommsen, *Staatsrecht*, I., pp. 433, 434.

⁶ The so-called "Antinous" of the Belvedere and its replicas prove that Praxiteles originated the motive. It is reproduced in various heroic statues (*Museo Chiaramonti*, 175, etc.) as well as in those draped in military fashion.

and lucid description of the Roman Centurion's equipment from the very valuable paper by Dr. Haverfield and Mr. Stuart Jones in their recently published *Journal*.¹ The Society have lately prepared and offered for sale a collection of casts designed to include representative sculptures and architectural decorations of the Roman Period in Britain. This tombstone forms one of the series. It would be well if a copy were secured for our Chester Museum.



¹ *Journal of Roman Studies*, ii. 124.



Miscellanea

IT is our pleasant duty to record that our Honorary Secretary, Mr. Frank Simpson, has been elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. The Archdeacon of Chester and Mr. Henry Taylor were present at the meeting of the Society at Burlington House, and took part in the interesting, but somewhat lengthy, proceedings when the ballot was taken. To be nominated for election does not necessarily secure success, though the nomination paper may have many signatures, and one of those balloted for on this occasion did not secure election, for which more than a mere majority is required.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS 1912-13

ANNUAL EXCURSION

THE Annual Excursion of the Society took place on Thursday, July 17th, 1913, when fifty members (and among them the Mayor and Mayoress of Chester) and their friends availed themselves of the opportunity provided of visiting many places of interest in the eastern part of the county. The party included several members of the Architects' Association, and started from the General Station at 9-53 for Crewe, where three brakes were in waiting for them and conveyed them to Sandbach. The drive was through a pleasant park-like country, passing the villages of Crewe Green and Wheelock, and the party was greeted with lusty cheers from the children of the various schools which they passed.

At Sandbach, the ancient Crosses in the Market-place were first inspected, and here Mr. Frank Simpson, F.S.A., gave a short description of them, referring to the mention of them made by the Bishop of Bristol in his paper before the Society, and pointing out the different subjects carved on them. These include the Nativity, Virgin and Child, Christ before Pilate, the Crucifixion, Christ in Glory, St. Peter, etc., while the symbols of the Evangelists are also figured. Mr. Romilly Allen, in a paper before the Society twenty years ago, spoke of these mutilated crosses as containing probably the finest series of figure-subjects in all England. It was felt by many that some protection ought to be given to the Crosses—and they should be surrounded with some chains or railing of a suitable character. Leaving the Crosses, a visit was paid to the Old Hall Inn, where certain panelled rooms of the seventeenth century were seen, with mantelpieces of the same date carved and in good preservation.

The drive was then resumed to Brereton Church and Hall. The former contains monuments of the Brereton family, including one of Lord Brereton, but the fresco which it once contained of the murder of Thomas-a-Becket has long since disappeared. It may be pointed out that one of the four knights connected with the martyrdom of St. Thomas of Canterbury was a Brereton (the name is variously spelt). The Hall is a mansion of the date of Queen Elizabeth, and is described by old chroniclers as a magnificent and sumptuous house. The date over the door is 1586, but the foundation-stone was said to have been laid by Queen Elizabeth in 1577. The Queen's bedroom is shown, and her arms are also to be seen in the richly-panelled dining-room. Some of the party mounted the tower, which is a conspicuous feature of the edifice. Mr. and Mrs. Moir, who reside at the Hall, were most kind in their attentions.

Leaving Brereton, it was found necessary to go on straight to Congleton, and so to omit the visit to the half-timber church at Marton, which was part of the programme. This was unfortunate, as it is a very good specimen of that type of architecture, and quite as good as Lower Peover Church, which was inspected in 1912.

At Congleton, luncheon was served in the Masonic Hall, after which the party adjourned to the Town Hall, where the Mayor (Dr. W. I. Fern), Mr. Robert Head, and others were in attendance. Here the Corporation plate and records had been carefully arranged, and were displayed for the edification of the visitors. It was interesting to hear that our former editorial secretary, Mr. Earwaker, had given the greatest possible assistance in the arranging of the records and in binding the several volumes. The several Charters were on exhibition, and were carefully examined by some. It would be impossible to give here a full description of the treasures which were on view, but mention may be made of two; the Corporation mace, of the time of the Commonwealth, which with its design and inscription received close examination. Then there were certain little bells fastened to collars of leather, which have a unique history. Their origin is supposed to be connected with the Church of St. Peter (dedicated to St. Peter ad Vincula), the jangling of the bells in processions at festivals recalling the rattling of the chains. They were recovered from a family of sweeps (who used them on their May-day rounds), and are now preserved among the treasures of the borough. Before leaving for Astbury, the Archdeacon voiced the feelings of the company by tendering a hearty vote of thanks to the Mayor and civic authorities, and to Mr. Head, for the pains they had taken in preparing for them such an interesting display.

At Astbury, the church was visited, and a short description of it read by Mr. Simpson, after which, under the guidance of the clerk, the various points of interest were

visited, including the Egerton and Davenport monuments, and the striking chancel screen with its return stalls. The font cover, too, of Jacobean date, is very handsome, as is also the altar of the same period, which might well be left free of frontals. The roof bears the date of 1616, with the names of the "carpenter" and of the persons who, at that time, were "posts" (*praepositi*) of the parish, representing the eight principal landowners. The church is very lofty, and the east window exceptionally large. In the roof above the rood screen is a pendant, which may have held a figure, or possibly the Sanctus Bell. A somewhat similar pendant, immediately above the east window, has the symbols of the Five Wounds carved upon its base. Some ancient tombs in the churchyard were also inspected. The appearance of the church from the outside is somewhat remarkable, the tower, with its elegant spire, being apart from the body of the church, though connected with its west front by stone buildings.

Leaving Astbury, a short drive brought us to Old Moreton Hall, one of the finest specimens of a half-timber Manor House that the county, or indeed the country, possesses. The house is surrounded by a moat, which is crossed by a stone bridge leading to the entrance gateway, which introduces the visitor into a quadrangle. It is impossible to describe adequately the picturesque effect of the whole building, which has been well cared for and is in an excellent state of preservation. The want of uniformity in the design and the varying heights of the roof relieve the building from that monotony which is so often found. On one side there is a break in the buildings, letting in light and air; while the timbers are so arranged as to give a wonderful variety. The visitors were able to roam through the different rooms, with their carved mantelpieces and rich panelling and various inscriptions. The gallery, a room seventy-five feet long and twelve feet broad, extending the whole length of one side, on the top

storey, and with an open timbered roof, attracted much attention. The whole wall space is occupied with windows and panelling beneath, while the gable ends are covered with moulded plaster work and figures, still coloured representing Destiny and Fortune, and tablets with inscriptions, which clearly place the date in later Elizabethan days, though other parts of the edifice are of the time of Henry VII. The purpose of this room is still a matter of conjecture. It is inconveniently situated for a ballroom; it may have formed a convenient place for walking in when the weather outside was inclement. The little chapel in the oldest part of the building, to the right of the gatehouse, is entered from the courtyard; the sanctuary is screened off with opening glass doors, and the chapel is used occasionally for service by the Rector of Odd Rode.

The company assembled for tea in the panelled drawing-room, and so had the privilege of being entertained in the same room where King George and Queen Mary had tea on their recent visit to the Marquis of Crewe. The hall, with its many rooms and its beautifully-designed timber-work, is most fascinating, and everyone felt that they could well have spent a whole day in examining all its details. Still, they were amply repaid by what they did see, the only regret being that the Bishop of Derby, the present owner, was unable to be present, as he had hoped to be.

The company then resumed their carriages, and drove to Crewe, past Rode Hall, through Lawton and Alsager, and arrived home at 8-30 p.m. During the day, four new members were elected, and it is hoped that this most interesting Excursion may lead to a still further increase of membership.

E. B.

The following was sent to the Archdeacon by Mr. Head a few days after the Excursion, and it is reproduced here

as containing interesting information well worthy of being preserved:—

Apropos the visit of the Chester Archæological Society to Congleton, the following information referring to the Town Maces may be read with interest. But it is worth mentioning that the gorgeous Mace of Cromwell's time created less interest amongst the visitors than the Sweeps' Bells (as we call them!).

Congleton was incorporated and made into a Borough by Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, in the reign of Henry III., and again in that of Edward I., the right to hold market and fair was granted. Other Charters were granted under the Seal of the Duchy (of Lancaster) by Henry VIII., and Philip and Mary, and confirmed by Elizabeth in 1577, in which year Alexander Latham was Mayor, William Brereton the Steward, and Edward Fitton, of Gawsworth, the Senior Burgess. The Governing Charter of the town was granted by James I. in 1624-5, and remained in force until the passing of the Municipal Reform Act in 1835. By James I.'s Charter there were to be appointed two Sergeants-at-Mace, one to be chosen by the Mayor and Corporation, and to be named the Catchpole, the other to be chosen by the Mayor, and named the Mayor's Sergeant. They were to attend and carry before the Mayor two silver-gilt Maces, engraven with the Royal Arms. The Catchpole is also named in Henry de Lacy's Charter; his duties as defined by the Charter of 1624-5 were to serve all writs, processes, etc.; whilst the duty of the Mayor's Sergeant was keeper of the gaol. The insignia consists of a great and lesser Maces, and the Corporate and other Seals. There is also an Old China Punch or Sack Bowl.

The great Mace of Congleton is of silver-gilt and measures $41\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length. In general form it resembles the usual late type, with arched crown on the head. The Staff has a handsomely-wrought foot-knob, as well as two other gad-rooned and beaded knobs dividing it into three sections, of which the uppermost and shortest has four open-work brackets below the Mace-head. The sections of the Staff are covered with a spiral pattern of oak foliage and acorns. The Mace-

head is divided into four panels, containing respectively the Borough Arms, a crowned rose, a crowned harp, and "C.R." Above the panels is a band inscribed :—

"THE FREEDOME OF ENGLAND BY GOD'S BLESSING
RESTORED TO C.R., 1661."

The coronet surmounting the Mace-head is formed of cables, small shields, and other ornaments, with a jewelled circlet below. From it rise the arches of the crown, which are four ornate scrolls curling over, and supporting a cushion of ornate scroll work, on which rest the orb and cross. On the cap within the crown are the Royal Arms of Charles II., crowned, and with the lion and unicorn supporters. On the top of the Mace-head are the London hall-marks for 1651-2, and the maker's mark, a shield with "IV," and a pellet in base.

The remarkable fact about this Mace is that it was made during the Commonwealth. This is not only proved by the hall-marks, but the late Mr. John Wilson, Town Clerk of Congleton, found amongst the Borough Records a memorandum of items "to be annexed to the accounts of John Buckley, alderman for the yeare of our lord god, 1651," containing the following entry, which places the matter beyond all doubt: "Payd to Alderman Richard Parnell for money layd downe for the mace 25 00 00." Careful examination of the Mace itself shows that it has received certain alterations to convert it from a parliamentary bauble into an emblem of royal authority; the Royal Arms on the top and the badges round the Mace-head, which are removable by screws, having evidently replaced some non-regal devices. It will be noticed that the crown is not formed of the royal crosses and fleurs-de-lis, but is entirely of a nondescript character.

The legend round the head originally ran :—

"THE FREEDOME OF ENGLAND BY GOD'S
BLESSING RESTORED * * 1651"

but by inserting "TO" in the space between "RESTORED" and the date, altering the "5" of the latter to "6," and squeezing in "C R" a little above the line, an inscription

which commemorated the abolition of the monarchy was ingeniously converted into a memorial of its restoration. The following entries from the accounts of George Forde, Mayor in 1661, give us the date and cost of the alterations to the Mace:—

“15 June. Spent on myselfe, John Goddad, Mr.
Walley, and Richard Hall, and ye
goldsmyth and his friend, beeing 6
in number, at Middlewych, about
renewing ye mace 00 10 08
“15 Oct. Payd to ye Goldsmyth for *Altering*
ye Mace 03 00 00”

and in 1662 is an entry:—

“Recd. from ye Goldsmyth for old
Gold & Silver yt Mr fford sold .. 00 04 00”

The lesser Mace is of silver, and fourteen inches long. It consists of a plain Staff, divided by moulded and reeded bands into three nearly equal sections, and terminating at each end in a bell-shaped Mace-head, ornamented with acanthus leaves. The upper is distinguished from the lower by an ornate band of leafwork at its base; it also bears an engraving of the Royal Arms of James I., crowned, and between the letters I. R. The lower end of the Mace is quite plain. There are no hall-marks, but the date is certainly *temp.* James I.

Congleton Chronicle.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

THE Council beg to submit their Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1913.

Six Meetings have been held during the year, when the following Papers were read, viz.:—

22nd October, 1912—Mr. Frank Simpson—

“The City Guilds or Companies of Chester” (relating principally to that of the Smiths, Cutlers, and

Plumbers' Company), illustrated by Lantern Slides, including the Arms of most of the Chester Companies.

19th November, 1912—Prof. Robert Newstead, F.R.S., and Dr. J. Elliott—

“The Discovery of the Roman Cemetery in the Infirmary Field, Chester,” illustrated by Lantern Slides and Coloured Photographs.

17th December, 1912—Mr. R. Stewart-Brown, M.A., F.S.A.—

“Notes on the Chester Hand or Glove, now in the Liverpool Public Museum.” (The original Hand was exhibited).

21st January, 1913—

At this Meeting the Venerable Archdeacon Barber reported on the work done at the Cathedral Cloisters. The Mayor of Chester commented on the last Report of “The Inspector of Ancient Monuments” on the Gateway Tower, formerly called Julius Cæsar’s Tower, and now erroneously called the Keep.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. F. Simpson) and the Hon. Librarian (Mr. James Hall) reported on the Society’s exhibits, etc., and Messrs. Lowe & Sons submitted a small collection of old Chester silver, and a Chester Sheriff’s Pocket Mace of 1766. Several Members brought for inspection interesting exhibits of local objects.

18th February, 1913—Prof. J. C. Bridge, M.A., F.S.A.—

“Items of Expenditure from the 16th Century Accounts of the Painters, Glaziers, Embroiderers, and Stationers’ Company, with special reference to the Shepherds’ Play.”

1st April, 1913—Mr. J. H. E. Bennett—

“Two Elizabethan Chamberlains of the Palatinate of Chester,” illustrated by Lantern Slides.

The thanks of the Council are due to the Members of the Working Committee (The Mayor of Chester, Prof. Newstead, Mr. F. Simpson, Mr. James Hall, and Mr. T. A. Williams), for their care in watching the archæological interests of the City; through their suggestions many valuable objects of interest have been preserved.

The Annual Summer Excursion took place on Wednesday, July 10th, 1912, to Knutsford and district. The party arriving at Plumbley Station drove to Lower Peover, where they were conducted over the ancient half-timbered Church by the Vicar. They then proceeded to Over Peover, and were received by Lady Mainwaring and Sir Harry Mainwaring. The Church was first visited, and the party were afterwards conducted to the old Stables by Sir Harry, and an absolutely unique sight was presented to them in viewing the Stables with their ornamental ceilings, and afterwards certain parts of the Old Hall. Driving to Knutsford, luncheon was taken at the King's Café, an opportunity being taken here of reading an account of the Parish and of the Church, prepared by the Vicar. The Church was visited, and also the Unitarian Chapel and the grave of Mrs. Gaskell, and the party afterwards proceeded in conveyances to Mobberley (inspecting on their way the Burne Jones windows at St. Cross Church). On arriving, they were received and conducted over the Church by the Vicar (Rev. G. C. Dicker), leaving Mobberley by the train arriving at Chester 5-50 p.m., after a most instructive and successful expedition.

In July last, the Rev. F. Sanders—in consequence of ill-health—resigned his office of Hon. Editorial Secretary to the Society, which was accepted with regret, and the Council subsequently appointed the Rev. F. G. Slater of Ince Parsonage, who kindly consented to accept the position.

It is with great regret that the Council record the death of the Rev. F. Sanders, M.A., F.S.A., who rendered such

valuable services to the Society for many years in the capacity of Hon. Editorial Secretary, his death occurring on November 24th, 1912, only four months after resigning his position with the Society.

During the past year some very interesting Roman finds have been made on the site of the Chester Infirmary extension. Reference to this will appear in the Society's *Journal*.

The Council have elected the following representatives of the Society upon the Chester Public Library Committee: The Lord Bishop of Chester, Mr. Frank Simpson, and Mr. James Hall.

Part I. of Volume XIX. of the *Journal* of the Society has been published during the year, and Part II. is now ready and will be issued to the Members in a few days.

The Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts is annexed. Commencing with a credit balance of £10 14s. 1d. and adding the Income received £122 4s. 2d., less Expenditure £120 6s. 10d., the balance to carry forward is £12 11s. 5d., but against this the cost of Part II. of Volume XIX. of the *Journal* is not included, as it is not yet ascertained.

Mr. F. Simpson has been appointed Honorary Secretary to the Society.

Under Rule 4, the following Members of the Council retire, but are eligible for re-election:—Mr. Horace F. Davies, Mr. J. Sheriff Roberts, and Mr. James Williams; there is also a vacancy on the Council through the retirement of Mr. F. W. Longbottom.

The Hon. Auditors, Mr. A. G. Ayrton and Mr. W. W. Tasker, also retire, and are eligible for re-election.

Nominations for the vacancies should reach the Secretary not later than Wednesday, the 14th of May.

THE HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1913.

I have pleasure in submitting the following particulars:—

During the past year the total number of readers according to the Visitors' Book amounts to thirty-four; and the total number of books and MSS. consulted in the Library reaches fifty-one. Of these, nineteen books were on local history; and on thirteen occasions the Earwaker MS. collections have been referred to.

Twenty-nine volumes have been lent during the year to eleven members under the Library Rule and have been duly returned. No loss is to be reported.

In regard to additions to the presses, it may here be mentioned that four volumes of *The Cheshire Sheaf*, viz., vols. v., vi., vii. and viii., have been purchased and bound uniformly with the earlier volumes, by the Society; thereby making that useful publication complete up to date.

Appended is the full list of additions to the Library by exchanges, gifts, or purchases, for the past year, carefully drawn up by the Curator (Mr. Alfred Newstead) who has entered the several items on the card-catalogue; and to whom are due the thanks of the Council.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

Agreement respecting certain Lands and Tenements (no date). Press 20.
Drawer E.

"Archæologia Cambrensis," Vol. XII., Parts 3 and 4 (1912); Vol. XIII., Part I. (1913).

Baluster Stemmed Glasses (English). Francis Buckley. *Donor*, the Author, 1912.

Belfast Public Art Gallery and Museum, Irish Tokens. *Donors*, Members of Committee, 1913.

Buckinghamshire, Records of, Vol. X, No. 3 (1912).

- Cambridge, Proceedings of the Antiquarian Society, Nos. LXII.-LXIII., (1912).
- Chester and North Wales Archæological and Historical Society, Journal of, Vol. XIX., Part I. (1912). (2 copies).
- Dee (River), Act of Parliament to recover and preserve the Navigation of: will destroy the Navigation, and occasion the drowning of all the low lands adjacent to the said river, from observations of the ruinous effects at the ports of Lyn, Rye, Wisbech, and Spalding. Illustrated with a map of the rivers named. Second Edition, Printed at Chester, 1735. Press 20, Drawer E.
- Essex, Archæological Society, Vols. XII.-XIII. Part IV. (1912).
- Fornvännen Meddelanden fran K. Vitterhets. Historie och Antikvitets Akademien (1911).
- Indexes, Subject, to Old Series C.A.S. Journals (Vols. I.-III., 1849-85); New Series (Vols. I.-XVIII., 1887-1911), 2 copies.
- Index Library, Parts 127-129 (1912).
- Index Library, Wiltshire Inquisitions Post Mortem, Vol. II., Part 130 (1912). Purchased.
- Ireland, Royal Society of Antiquaries of, Index to Vol. XLI., (1911); Vol. XLII. (1912); (1913).
- Knutsford, The Poet Gray and, An unpublished pedigree; contains also Elegy written in a Country Churchyard. By "Cedric II." *Donor*, Mr. H. Hulme, July 7th, 1911.
- Lancashire and Cheshire, Historic Society of, Vol. LXIII. (1911).
- Lancashire and Cheshire Record Society, Chester Marriage Licences, Vol. V., 1661-67. (65.) 1912.
- Letter written by Samuel Speed, 1621. Press 20, Drawer E.
- Letter written by Lennox Beverley, of Huntington, to Randle Holme, Mayor of the City of Chester, Feb. 10th, 1643. Press 20, Drawer E.
- Liverpool, University of, Annals of Archæology and Anthropology, Vol. V., Nos. 1-4 (1912-13).
- London, Royal Society of Antiquaries of, Vol. XXIV. (1911-12).
- Map, Palatine County of Chester, by C. & J. Greenwood. *Donor*, Mr. John E. Pritchard.
- Montgomeryshire and its Borders, Collection Historical and Archæological relating to, Part LXXI. (1912).
- Musical Festival, Triennial, Chester, July 25th-27th, 1894, Book of Words, July 21st to 23rd, 1897. *Donor*, Professor J. C. Bridge.
- Poll Book, Copy of, in all the Seven Hundreds within the County of Chester; for Knights of the Shire to serve in Parliament for the said County, The Poll began the 30th August and ended the 1st of September, 1727. *Donor*, Harry Barnston, Esq.
- Pottery in York Museum, Thos. May. *Donor*, the Author (Reprint), (1911, 1912).

- Receipt for money from Sir Robert Howard (Auditor) for the Use and Service for the Chester Garrison, by Geoffrey Shakerley (Governor), Feburary 27th, 1674. Press 20, Drawer E.
- Rostherne and Tatton, in the County of Chester. Bygone, from the "Knutsford Guardian." March 30th, August 9th, 1910, H. Hulme ("Cedric II.") *Donor*, the Author.
- Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire, 1, 2, 3 Reports, 1910-12. *Presented by* R. A. Yerburch, Esq., M.P.
- Royal Commission on Public Records, 1st Report ; Appendices to 1st Report. Minutes of evidence with Appendices and Index, Vol. I., Parts I.-III. (1912). *Donor*, R. A. Yerburch, Esq., M.P.
- Scotland, Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries, Vol. XLVII. (1911-12).
- Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society, Vol. II., Parts II. and III. (1912-13); Vol. III., Parts I. and II. (1912-13).
- Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, Proceedings of, Vol. LVIII. (1913).
- Stage (English), Its Origin and Modern Developments. A Critical and Historic Study by D. E. Oliver. *Donor*, Mr. W. W. Tasker.
- Stockholm, Guide to the National Historical Museum (1912).
- Surrey, Archæological Collections, Vol. XXV. (1912).
- Thoresby Society, Vol. XX, Part I. (1911).
- „ „ Leeds Parish Registers, 1722-57.
- United States National Museum, Annual Report of (1911).
- Wales (Northern) as it was and as it is. The Heart of ; Being an account of the Prehistorical and Historical Remains of Aberconway and the neighbourhood. W. Bezant Lowe (1912). Purchased.
- Wirral, Hundred of ; Perambulation of, in the County of Chester. Harold Edgar Young. Introduction by Wm. Fergusson Irvine, 1909. *Donor*, Mr. F. W. Longbottom.
- Yorkshire Archæological Journal, Part 85 (1912); Index to Paver's Marriage Licences (1567-1630); Part 86, (1912); Catalogue of Manuscripts.

JAMES HALL,

Hon. Librarian.

March 31st 1913.

THE CHESTER AND NORTH WALES ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC SOCIETY.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31st March, 1913.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
1912.	£ s. d.	1912.	£ s. d.
107 2 0	To Subscriptions	60 0 0	By Grosvenor Museum Management Committee
5 0 0	" Donations—His Grace The Duke of Westminster	18 0 1	" Printing, Postages, Stationery, Advertising, and Insurance
1 1 0	Rev. H. Grantham	3 12 5	" Subscriptions to kindred Societies
11 3 8	" Dividend on London and North-Western Railway Stock	1 3 0	" Purchase of Antiquarian objects
0 10 0	" Sale of Family Lecture Tickets	4 2 11	" Expenses re Ancient Boat
0 16 0	" Admittance to Lectures and Miscellaneous Receipts	82 1 0	" Printing and Publishing Part I. of Vol. XIX. of Journal (Vol. XVIII.)
125 12 8		15 15 0	" Secretary's Salary
81 6 2	Surplus brought forward from last Account	11 10 4	" Miscellaneous Expenses
£206 18 10		196 4 9	
		10 14 1	Balance to credit, carried forward
		£206 18 10	
			£132 18 3

MAY 9th, 1913—Audited and found correct.

W. W. TASKER,
ALFRED AYRTON.



LIST OF MEMBERS, 1913-14

- Acton, T. Arthur, 3, Grove Road, Wrexham.
Adams, G. F., Victoria Road, Chester
Aldersey, Hugh, J.P., Aldersey Hall, Chester
"Antiquary," The Editor of, 62, Paternoster Row, London
Atcherley, Mrs., Hough Green, Chester
Ayrtton, Alfred, Ashfield, Wrexham Road, Chester
Ayrtton, Maxwell, 3, Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, London, W.C.
- Barber, The Ven. Archdeacon, M.A., F.S.A., St. Bridget's Rectory,
[Chester]
Barber, J. Lionel, Vizcachani, Neston
Barbour, George, D.L., J.P., Bolesworth Castle, near Chester
Barlow, W. H., 70, West Bank Road, Higher Tranmere, Birkenhead
Barnston, Harry, M.P., Crewe Hill, Farndon
Beckett, R. T., Newgate Street, Chester
Bell, H., J.P., Greenfields, West Kirby
Bennett, J. H. E., 66, Cambrian Crescent, Chester
Benson, E. F., 102, Oakley Street, Chelsea
Beswick, H., Newgate Street, Chester
Blease, Charles, 3, Spring Gardens, Chester
Blower, T. B., The Groves, Chester
Bonnalie, F. J., J.P., Abbey Square, Chester
Bosanquet, Professor R. C., Institute of Archaeology, 40, Bedford
[Street (N.), Liverpool]
Boscawen, Mrs., Trevalyn Hall, Rossett, near Wrexham
Bridge, Prof. J. C., M.A., D.Mus., F.S.A., Christ Church Vicarage,
[Brook Lane, Chester]
Broughton, Sir Delves L., Bart., Doddington, Nantwich
Brown, W. E., Pepper Street, Chester
Brown, Mrs. W. E., 33, Parkgate Road, Chester
Brown, H. F., LL.B., 18, Curzon Park, Chester

Brown, Mrs. L. P., M.A., 18, Curzon Park, Chester
Browne, L. V., 27, Castle Street, Chester
Browne, Morton, Lache-holme, Lache Lane, Chester

Campbell, Mrs. Pitcairn, Christleton Hall, Chester
Campbell, C. Ogilvie, Godstall Chambers, Chester
Carson, W., Bryn Estyn, Hough Green, Chester
Cartlidge, J. E. Gordon, 12, Wesley Street, Castleford, Yorks.
Chambers, The Very Rev. Canon, St. Werburgh's Presbytery, Chester
Chester, The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of, The Palace, Chester
Chester, The Right Worshipful The Mayor of, Town Hall, Chester
Chester, The Sheriff of, Town Hall, Chester
Chidley, T., 14, St. Werburgh Street, Chester
Clark, Dr. W. G., Bulawayo, South Africa
Comber, Miss M., Woodville, Liverpool Road, Chester
Compton, T., Claremont, Upper Garden Lane, Chester
Conway, Walter, Old Bank Buildings, Chester
Conway, Mrs. Walter, 18, Sunny Bank, Queen's Park, Chester
Cooke, J. H., Solicitor, Winsford
Coppack, Charles, Liverpool Road, Chester
Cullimore, John, J.P., The Friars, Chester
Cummings, Sydney G., Upton Heath, Chester

Davies, H. F., A.R.I.B.A., 6, King's Buildings, Chester
Davies, Fred, Architect, Newgate Street, Chester
Dempster, Robert, Vale Royal, Cheshire
Dickson, J. H., Westminster Park, Chester
Dixon, George, J.P., Astle Hall, Chelford, Cheshire
Dodd, John, Corn Exchange Chambers, Chester
Dring, S., Ellesmere, Vicar's Cross, Chester
Dutton, H. B., 27, Curzon Park, Chester
Dutton, Mrs. H. B., 27, Curzon Park, Chester
Dutton, Hugh T., M.A., 27, Curzon Park, Chester
Dutton, A. E., 51, Frodsham Street, Chester

Edwards, Thomas, Bryn Têg, Hough Green, Chester
Elliott, Dr., B.Sc., 24, Nicholas Street, Chester
Elliott, Miss, 29, Hough Green, Chester
Elphick, Pelham, Brook Lane, Chester
Evans, G. H., 5, Lumley Road, Chester

Farmer, R., 67, Liverpool Road, Chester
 Farrall, Rev. L. M., M.A., 16, Curzon Park, Chester
 Fennah, G. H., 9, Watergate Row South, Chester
 Ffoulkes, Miss Jocelyn, Kingsley Lodge, Liverpool Road, Chester
 Ffoulkes, Miss H. Jocelyn, Kingsley Lodge, Liverpool Road, Chester
 Ffoulkes, Rev. P. J. B., Rode Rectory, Scholar Green, Cheshire
 Fleming, T. R., Rowton Grange, Chester
 Fleming, Mrs., Rowton Grange, Chester
 Frost, J. M., J.P., Upton Lawn, Chester

Gamon, Gilbert P., 52, Grafton Street, Fitzroy Square, London, W.
 Gardner, E., Northgate Street, Chester
 Gladstone, H. N., J.P., Burton Manor, Cheshire
 Golder, J. T., The Birches, Westminster Avenue, Chester
 Graham, J. Maclean, The Cottage, Christleton
 Grantham, Rev. Henry, St. Mary's Rectory, Chester
 Griffin, Rev. C. A., The Folly, Flookersbrook, Chester
 Griffin, Mrs., The Folly, Flookersbrook, Chester

Haddington, The Right Hon. The Earl of, Arderne Hall, Tarporley,
 [Cheshire]
 Hall, James, 24, Saughall Road, Chester
 Harding, Newton H., 110, N. Pine Avenue, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.
 Hargreaves, John, The Woodlands, Rock Ferry
 Harrod, H. D., F.S.A., Amlwch, Anglesea
 Haswell, G. W., Bouverie Street, Chester
 Haverfield, Prof. F. J., M.A., D.C.L., F.S.A., Winshields, Headington
 [Hill, Oxford]
 Hewitt, John, Architect, Hoole, Chester
 Higginson, T., 3, White Friars, Chester
 Hobday, James, Liverpool Road, Chester
 Holme, Samuel H., Downswood, Liverpool Road, Chester
 Howard, Mrs. Robert, Broughton Hall, Malpas
 Howe, Rev. W. N., M.A., 37, Tunnard Street, Boston, Lincs.
 Howson, Rev. J. F., M.A., The Vicarage, Guiseley, Yorkshire
 Hughes, David, Solicitor, Old Bank Buildings, Chester
 Hughes, J. T., 11, Abbey Street, Chester
 Hughes, T. Cann, M.A., F.S.A., 78, Church Street, Lancaster
 Hughson, Arthur, Eastgate Row North, Chester
 Humphreys, W. H., B.A., LL.B., 5, Hamilton Street, Hoole, Chester
 Hutchings, W. N., "Hillsboro," Frodsham

Irvine, W. Fergusson, F.S.A., 56, Park Road South, Birkenhead

Jenner, H. A., 11, White Friars, Chester

Johnson, T. C., Eastgate Row, Chester

Jones, R. W., Probate Registry, Chester

Jones, W. S., North and South Wales Bank, Welshpool

Jones, E. Peter, J.P., Greenbank, Eaton Road, Chester

Jones, Henry, 96, Watergate Flags, Chester

Jones, E. D., 6, Addison Road, Kensington, London, W.

Jones, W. Bell, Post Office, Hawarden, Flint.

Kelsey, C. E., Hulme Grammar School, Alexandra Park, Manchester

Kenyon, Mrs. Flookersbrook, Chester

Knoop, J. J. de, Calveley Hall, Tarporley

Knowles, Robert, 15, Grosvenor Road, Chester

Lamb, A. R., Linwood, Brook Lane, Chester

Lawson, P. H., St. Eilian, Newton, Chester

Lees, Dr. William, Bars House, Boughton, Chester

Lever, Sir W. H., Bart., Thornton Manor, Thornton Hough, Cheshire

Librarian, The, Free Public Library, Chester

Library, Free, Liverpool.

Library, Free Public, Chester

Library, City of London, Guildhall, London

Library, Boston Public, *per* Bernard Quaritch, Esq., 11, Grafton Street,
[New Bond Street, W.]

Library, New York Public, *per* Messrs. B. F. Stevens & Brown, 4,
[Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.]

Library, Bodleian, Oxford

Library, Wrexham Public

Library, John Rylands, Manchester

Livesey, A. C., Grange Road, Chester

Lloyd, Sir Horatio, J.P., Stanley Place, Chester

Lloyd, Colonel Wilford N., J.P., Eccleston Hill, Chester

Lockwood, Mrs. T. M., Queen's Park, Chester

Lockwood, P. H., St. Werburgh Street, Chester



CONGRESS
OF
Archaeological Societies
IN UNION WITH THE
Society of Antiquaries of London.
JUNE 26th, 1913.

The Twenty-fourth Congress was held in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, at Burlington House, on Thursday, June 26th. Sir Hercules Read, President of the Society of Antiquaries, took the Chair.*

The Congress was attended by delegates from the Society of Antiquaries, the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, the Royal Archaeological Institute (2), the British Archaeological Association, the Huguenot (2), the British Record, the Folk-Lore (2), and Selborne (2) Societies; the Societies for Bristol and Gloucestershire (2), Buckingham, Cambridge, Carmarthenshire, Cumberland and Westmoreland, Derbyshire, Dorset (2), Hampshire, Kent (2), Lancashire and Cheshire (Antiquarian and Historic), Leicestershire (2), Shropshire, Somersetshire (2), Suffolk, Surrey (2), Sussex, Yorkshire, East Ridings (2), by Members of the Council, and the various Committees and others who omitted to sign the Register.

The Minutes of the previous Congress, which had been circulated among all Societies in Union, were confirmed.

The Annual Report of Council and the Statement of Accounts, which had been submitted to the Delegates, were adopted.

Council.—The Council had recommended that the number of the Council be fixed at 18, exclusive of members *ex officio*, and that in future only the six senior members of the Council retire yearly, and that they be eligible for re-election.

* Congress is indebted to Mr. Ralph Nevill, F.S.A., for his compilation of these minutes.

CLASSIFICATION.

The classification of defensive works recommended by the Committee now stands as follows:—

- A. Fortresses partly inaccessible by reason of precipices, cliffs, or water, defended in part only by artificial works.
- B. Fortresses on hill-tops with artificial defences, following the natural line of the hill

Or, though usually on high ground, less dependent on natural slopes for protection.
- C. Rectangular or other enclosures of simple plan (including forts and towns of the Romano-British period).
- D. Forts consisting only of a mount with encircling moat or fosse.
- E. Fortified mounts, wholly or partly artificial, with remains of an attached court or bailey, or showing two or more such courts.
- F. Homestead moats, consisting of simple or compound enclosures formed into artificial islands by water moats.
- G. Enclosures, mostly rectangular, partaking of the form of F, but protected by stronger defensive works, ramparted and fossed, and in some instances provided with outworks.
- H. Ancient village sites protected by walls, ramparts or fosses.
- X. Defensive or other works which fall under none of the above headings.

- Toms, Herbert S.—“Excavations at the Beltout Valley Entrenchments.” (Sussex Archaeol. Collections, Vol. LV.)
- “Notes on a Probable Romano-British Valley Entrenchment in Cranborne Chase.” (The Antiquary, July, 1913.)
- Treherne, George G. T.—“Laugharnshire: Hearth at Crug-y-Fettan Farm.” (Trans. Carm. Ant. Soc. Vol. VIII.)
- Tristram, Edward. “Combs Moss Fort, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire.” (The Antiquary, June, 1913.)
- Villy, Francis.—“A supposed Roman Camp near Harrogate.” (Yorks. Archaeol. Journal, 1912.)
- Walter, R. Hensleigh.—“Hamdon or Ham Hill, S. Somerset. Notes on its Early Occupation and afterwards.” (Proc. Somerset Arch. and N.H. Soc., Vol. LVIII.)
- Westropp, T. J.—The Promontory Forts and Early Remains of the Coasts of County Mayo, Part I. (contd.), The North Coast (Tirawley and Erris). (Proc. R. Soc. Ant., Ireland, Vol. XLII., June, 1912.)
- The Promontory Forts and Early Remains of the Coasts of County Mayo, Part II., The Mullet. Proc. R. Soc. Ant., Ireland, Vol. XLII., September, 1912.
- Notes on the Promontory Forts and Similar Structures of County Kerry. (Proc. R. Soc. Ant. Ireland, Vol. XLII., December, 1912.)
- Whistler, Rev. C. W.—See under Major.
- Williams-Freeman, J.P.—“Roman Roads in Hampshire.” (The Architect, May 16th, 1913.)
- Windle, Bertram C. A.—Megalithic Remains surrounding Lough Gur, County Limerick. (Proc. R. Irish Academy, Vol. XXX., Sec. C., No 10.)

ALBANY F. MAJOR,
 (Hon. Secretary to the Committee),
 BIFRÜST, 30, THE WALDRONS,
 CROYDON.

Roman and Mediaeval City Ditch, etc.) *Archaeologia*,
2nd Series, Vol. XIII.

Newbold, P.—See under Simpson.

Oswald, Felix, D.Sc., F.G.S.—“Upon the recent Excavation
of the Site of the Roman Camp of Margidunum, near
Bingham, Notts.” (City of Nottingham Art Museum
publication.)

Praeger, R. Ll.—See under Macalister.

Pryce, G. Davies.—“Margidunum, a Roman fortified post on
the Fosseway.” (*Journal of the British Archaeological
Association*.)

Salzmann, L. F.—“Excavations at Selsey, 1911.” (*Sussex
Arch. Collections*, Vol. LV.)

——— “Excavation of Earthwork at Selsey, Sussex.”
(Abstract) (*Proc. Soc. Ant. Lond.*, 2nd Series, Vol.
XXIV., p. 116.)

Simpson, F. G., Haverfield, Professor F., Craster, H. H. E.,
and Newbold, P.—“Excavations on the Line of the
Roman Wall in Cumberland during the years 1909-12.
(*Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc.*, N.S.,
Vol. XIII., May, 1913.) Includes the wall of turf.

Smith, Reginald A.—On the Date of Grime's Graves and
Cissbury Flint-mines. (*Archaeologia*, 2nd Series, Vol.
XIII.)

Sumner, Heywood.—“The Ancient Earthworks of Cranborne
Chase.” (*Proc. Dorset N.H. and Ant. Field Club*,
Vol. XXXIV.)

Thompson, A. Hamilton.—“Military Architecture in England
during the Middle Ages.” (Oxford University Press,
1912.) Commences with pre-historic and later earth-
works.

includes dykes, pastoral enclosures, etc. (Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc. N.S., Vol. XIII., May, 1913.)

Gray, H. St. George.—“A Survey of Old Burrow Camp, Exmoor, with Notes on the Excavations conducted there in 1911.” (Trans. Devon Assoc., Vol. XLIV.)

——— “Fourth Interim Report of the Excavations at Maumbury Rings, Dorchester, 1912.” (Proc. Dorset N.H. and Ant. Field Club, Vol XXXIV.) Also issued separately.

Haverfield, Professor F.—See under Simpson.

Holden, Dr. J. S.—“Ancient Earthworks at Alpheton, Suffolk.” (Proc. Suffolk Inst. of Arch., Vol. XIII.)

Hughes, Harold.—“Prehistoric Remains on Penmaenmawr” (continued). (Archaeologia Cambrensis, 6th Series, Vol. XII.)

Lowerison, Bellerby.—“The Archæology of Thule,” Brochs, etc., Abstract. (Proc. Prehistoric Soc. of East Anglia, Vol. I., Part 2.)

Macalister, F. A. S., Armstrong, E. C. R., and Praeger, R. Ll.—“On a Bronze age Interment, with associated Standing-Stone and Earthen Ring, near Naas, Co. Kildare.” Proc. R. Irish Academy, Vol. XXX., Sec. C., No. 15.

Major, Albany F. and Whistler, Rev. C. W.—“Early Wars of Wessex,” (Cambridge University Press, September, 1913.) Contains a reproduction of General Pitt-Rivers' Archaeological map of Somerset, Dorset and adjoining counties and other maps and plans of earthworks.

Norman, Philip, and Reader, F. W.—“Further Discoveries relating to Roman London, 1906-12.” (Refers to the

National Union of Teachers, Weston-super-Mare, Easter, 1913.)

Bush, T. S.—“Report on Lansdown Explorations and Discoveries in Bath and Vicinity, 1912.” (Proc. Bath and District Branch, Somerset Arch. and N.H. Soc.)

Cochrane, Dr. Robert.—“Notes on the Structures in Co. Cork, vested in the Board of Works for Preservation as Ancient Monuments.” (Journ. Cork Hist. and Arch. Soc., Vol. XVIII.)

——— “A list of Ancient and National Monuments in the County of Cork.” (Guy & Co., Cork, 1913.)

Courtney, R. A.—“The Hill and the Circle.” (Beare and Son, Penzance. Privately printed, 1912.)

Collingwood, R. G.—“Earthworks on Allen Knott (Windermere).” (Trans. Cumb. and Westm. Ant. and Arch. Soc., N.S., Vol. XIII., May, 1913.)

Craster, H. H. E.—See under Simpson.

Cunnington, Mrs. M. E.—“Bronze Age Barrows on Arn Hill, Warminster.” (Wilts. Arch. and N.H. Mag., Vol. XXXVII.)

——— “The Removal of a Barrow on the Downs near Upavon.” do. do. do.

——— “A Late Celtic Inhabited Site at All Cannings Cross Farm.” do. do. do.

Fosbroke, T. H.—“Kirkby Muxloe Castle.” (Proc. Associated Societies. Half volume for 1912.)

Gardner, Willoughby.—“Excavations in the ancient Hill Fort, Parc y Meirch Wood, Kinmel Park, Abergele, North Wales.” (British Association Report, Dundee, 1912, and Archaeologia Cambrensis, 6th Series, Vol. XIII.)

Graham, T. H. B.—“The Townfields of Cumberland,”

Co. MEATH.—Tara Hill. The part of the hill on which stand the mounds known as “the King’s Chair” and “the Rath of the Synods” is vested under the Ancient Monuments Protection Act of 1892. The contour survey of the hill and its earthworks, referred to in last Report, has now been completed. It was undertaken by the Board of Works and was on a most elaborate scale, covering an area of about 200 acres, and comprising the largest group of earthworks yet surveyed. About 2,000 different readings of the levels have been taken, from which sections have been plotted showing the contour of the hill, which has been defined by longitudinal sections from north to south over the summit, and by cross sections at right angles east to west.

(From a report kindly furnished by Dr. Robert Cochrane, I.S.O., F.S.A.)

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Royal Commissions on Ancient and Historical Monuments.

ENGLAND.—COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, Vol I. (South).

WALES.—COUNTY OF FLINT.—

The Inventories of the Historical Monuments in both volumes include the earthworks of the county, with plans and sections of the more important.

Victoria County History.

SURREY, Vol IV., contains a chapter on Ancient Earthworks, by George Clinch, F.G.S., F.S.A. (Scot.), and Duncan Montgomerie, F.S.A., with plans.

Amongst other contributions to the literature of the subject, the following have come under our notice:—

Armstrong, E. C. R.—See under Macalister.

Aylott, George.—“Arbury Banks, Ashwell.” (Trans. East Herts. Arch. Soc., Vol. IV., Part 3, 1912.

Bothamley, C. H.—“Worlebury Camp and other ancient Earthworks.” (In Souvenir of the Conference of the

After some correspondence the Society was informed, that in view of the fact that the circumstances in Ireland in regard to the preservation of antiquities differed from those in Great Britain, and of the contemplated changes in the government of Ireland, the question of the appointment of a Royal Commission must remain over for the consideration of the Irish Government at some future time.

PRESERVATION.

The Estates Commissioners under the Irish Land Act of 1903 can transfer ancient monuments situated on land in their possession to the Board of Public Works, Ireland, or, should that body decline, to the County Council. It is, however, reported that the Commissioners hesitate to offer any monuments having a commercial value, *e.g.*, all earthworks where the surface is of value for grazing, as it generally is in the case of earthworks. There is no power to compensate the tenant for any land vested in the Board of Works or County Council. Consequently the monuments offered are for the most part confined to those devoid of any commercial value. A list for the past year is appended.

MONUMENTS OFFERED BY THE ESTATES COMMISSIONERS TO THE BOARD OF WORKS, IRELAND, OR COUNTY COUNCIL.

Co. CAVAN.—Cashelstone, townland of Cashel. An enclosure of earth and stone has been offered to the County Council.

Co. KERRY.—Cloghane carhan, Caher and ogam stone in the parish of Caher. Guardianship accepted by Board of Works.

———. Caherna na chree, parish of Ballinvoher, offered to County Council.

———. Callanafercy Rath. Accepted by Board of Works, but not vested, as it remains in owner's possession.

Co. LIMERICK.—Lough Gur and Grange. The Board of Works have accepted all the monuments here, but only the pillar stones, elongated cromlech and two earth and stone forts have been vested.

———. The small barrow at Upavon, referred to on page 9, was examined and described by Mrs. Cunnington before its removal.

YORKSHIRE.—Mr. John Hutton has made further excavations at “Solberge,” Sowber Gate, Northallerton, described in last year’s report. There appear to have been three parallel arched roads approaching the platform there described on the south side, but nothing has been discovered to throw further light on the puzzling problem these excavations have disclosed. Further digging is contemplated.

———. The late Roman fort on Huntcliff, Saltburn-on-Sea has been excavated by Mr. William Hornsby, and valuable results for the study of the Roman period have been obtained.

———. The fort at Slack, near Huddersfield, is to be examined during the present summer by the Roman Antiquities Committee for Yorkshire.

IRELAND.

The Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland has strongly represented to the Irish Government the desirability of appointing a Royal Commission to prepare an inventory of the ancient historical monuments of the country, similar to the Royal Commissions which have been appointed for the purpose in England, Scotland and Wales. The Society pointed out that owing to recent land legislation very many ancient monuments are passing into the possession of new owners, and that many instances of the removal or demolition of such monuments have been brought to their notice (see last Report), that the power of protection conferred by existing legislation was inadequate, and that an authoritative inventory was an indispensable preliminary to considering what further action could be taken.

in January last. The results showed that they were artificial, but were not barrows. Bones of domestic animals were found, also fragments of First Century Romano-British pottery. Professor McKenny Hughes considers that the evidence points to the mounds being possibly parts of *Salinae*.

SHROPSHIRE.—The owner of the tumulus mentioned on page 9 has asked the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society to have it properly opened before removal. The section of Watling Street referred to on the same page, which, though short, is very perfect, will also be surveyed before it is destroyed, and a plan will be preserved.

SOMERSET.—Some trial excavations were carried out in June, 1913, at Cadbury, near Wincanton, the reputed "Camelot," under the direction of Mr. H. St. George Gray.

———. A Roman villa site near Bedmore Barn, close to the earthworks on Ham Hill, was examined in the summer of 1912 by Messrs. Adams and Beattie. The objects discovered are in Taunton Museum.

———. The excavation work at Glastonbury Abbey and Meare Lake Village, which has been in progress for some years, is still going forward.

WESTMORLAND.—Excavations are to be carried out at the Roman camp near Ambleside, under the direction of Professor W. G. Collingwood, F.S.A.

WILTSHIRE.—The excavations at Avebury, which have been interrupted for two years, will, it is hoped, be resumed in the spring of 1914.

———. The examination of Casterly Camp was completed by Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Cunington last year. A full account will appear during the current year.

under the direction of Mr. H. St. George Gray. The investigation of the outer part of the northern entrance was completed, and a considerable area within the Rings at the foot of the great bank on the north-west side was excavated. Besides much Roman work, several more pre-historic shafts were found, three of which were cleared out, with interesting results. The work will be continued this year, when it is hoped the exploration will be completed. (See Bibliography, Gray).

HAMPSHIRE.—Mr. Heywood Sumner, F.S.A., has continued his examination of the Romano-British site discovered by him on Rockbourne Down. (See under Spring Pond Enclosure on page 13 of last report). Two foundation sites with T shaped hypocausts were discovered without the enclosure embankment, one apparently a small dwelling-house, the other perhaps a bakehouse. These were connected by a raised chalk pathway. A considerable length of the bank and ditches forming the enclosure was uncovered, and large postholes 22 feet apart were found on the bank, with intervening holes, possibly for stays. A flint causeway over the ditches was also found with postholes, as if for a gateway. The coins found date the settlement, which seems to have been of a peaceful, pastoral, and agricultural character, between A.D. 253 and 375. A full account is in preparation.

LANCASHIRE.—Further excavations have been made by the North Lonsdale Field Club in barrows on Birkrigg Moor. In one of them the remains of several interments and a small bronze pricker were found. After examination the barrows were restored as nearly as possible to their original condition.

LEICESTERSHIRE.—The excavation of the moat of Kirkby Muxloe Castle has been continued under the direction of the Inspector of Ancient Monuments (see last year's report).

NORFOLK.—The long mounds at Heacham-on-Sea, mentioned in last year's report (page 14) were examined by Mr. Bellerby Lowerison

for the Cambrian Archaeological Association, progresses steadily in advance of the quarrying operations. The results are being published in *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.—The “Hearth” mound on Crug y ffetan Farm has been examined. This was a circular mound forty feet in diameter and two to three feet high, by the side of a rivulet on a field called Parc y Pistill. It consisted entirely of small fragments of stone burnt black and red. A short limestone pillar marked iii was placed on the centre of the mound.

DENBIGHSHIRE.—Further details of the excavations carried out by the Abergele Antiquarian Society, under the direction of Mr. Willoughby Gardner, at the hill fort of Parc y Meirch, St. George, Abergele (see last year’s report), show that there were three successive occupations and destructions of the stronghold, the latest occupation being during the fourth century by a native population using Roman pottery and a Roman currency of “small brass” coins. Further work is now in progress on the site, Mr. Gardner and the Abergele Antiquarian Society, being this year assisted by the Cambrian Archæological Association and a Committee of Section H of the British Association. (See Bibliography, Gardner).

———. A group of three tumuli at Eglwys bach is being explored by the Nant Conwy Antiquarian Society under the direction of Mr. Willoughby Gardner. A report on the first of these excavations will appear shortly in *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

———. The Bronze Age tumulus at Llanrwst, referred to under “Preservation,” has been partly excavated with interesting results by the Nant Conwy Antiquarian Society, under the direction of Mr. Willoughby Gardner, this spring. It is hoped to complete the work during the autumn.

DORSETSHIRE.—Excavations were resumed in September last at Maumbury Rings, the Roman amphitheatre outside Dorchester,

———. A section of Watling Street, together with a tumulus, has been scheduled in a Railway Bill, and is doomed to destruction. The efforts of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, to save these, as well as Abdon Burf, have been unsuccessful.

SOMERSET.—A report has just been received by the Committee respecting three tumuli, known as Brightworthy Barrows, situated on Withypool Common, on the borders of Exmoor. These are now in process of being destroyed by the road contractor in order to provide stones for road metal. One has been razed completely, another has been destroyed, but the material not yet removed, while the third alone is at present intact. The Committee has been asked to intervene, and the matter has been brought to the notice of the Local Government Board.

WARWICKSHIRE.—Dr. G. A. Auden reports that Harborough Banks, in the parish of Lapworth, which was complete forty years ago, is now practically destroyed.

SUSSEX.—The eastern ramparts of Whitehawk Camp on Brighton Racecourse have been dug over and much injured. The matter has been represented by local archaeologists to the agent of the land-owner principally concerned, and it is hoped that no further damage will be permitted.

WILTSHIRE.—A small tumulus has been removed in the course of preparing the Government Flying Ground on the downs at Upavon. Its removal is stated to have been unavoidable.

EXPLORATION.

CARDIGAN.—A pre-historic flint factory has been discovered on the foreshore at Aberystwith, immediately below a defended dinas (hill-fort).

CARNARVONSHIRE.—The survey of the great hill fortress at Penmaenmawr, which is being carried out by Mr. Harold Hughes

Monuments Acts, through the instrumentality of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society.

DESTRUCTION.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.—A cutting has been made through the rampart of the fine hill fort of "Castell," on Banc Farm, in the parish of Llanfihangel ar Arth, in order to form a cartway.

CARNARVONSHIRE.—The gradual destruction of the notable hill fortress on Penmaenmawr, referred to in previous reports, goes steadily forward. (See also under Exploration.)

DORSETSHIRE.—Mr. H. St. George Gray reports that digging for chalk is injuring the vallum of Bokerly Dyke, near Woodyates, on the boundary between Dorset and Wilts. The position, as observed in the summer of 1912, is a little east of the point where the dyke crosses the main Salisbury Blandford road, and on the south side of the main road.

FLINTSHIRE.—Mr. H. St. George Gray reports from observations made last Easter at Dyserth, that quarrying operations are rapidly demolishing what remains of the ruins of Dyserth Castle.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—Mr. A. E. Hudd, F.S.A., reports that the Roman Road crossing Durdham Down, near Bristol, to the Roman Dock at Sea Mills (Abona?), has been partially destroyed, notwithstanding protests in the local papers, by the Committee preparing the show-ground for the forthcoming meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society. Some pre-historic lead-workings on the same downs have also been destroyed, filled up, and turfed over for the same reason.

LANCASHIRE.—The destruction of a British settlement site at Stainton-in-Furness, mentioned in last year's Report, continues.

SHROPSHIRE.—The destruction of Abdon Burf, the pre-historic walled town on Brown Clee Hill, mentioned in previous reports, continues.

upkeep of the Roman Road, near Epsom, a section of which is said to be still in use, though apparently much neglected and disowned by the local authorities.

SUSSEX.—An Earthworks Survey Section of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Club has been formed. Under the direction of Mr. H. S. Toms, the section has been actively engaged in searching out and surveying many pastoral earthworks and ancient roads round Brighton. Various examples of these, hitherto overlooked, have already been recorded, and it is believed that the section has not yet come to the end of the discoveries that await it.

WESTMORLAND.—The Roman Camp at Waterhead, near Ambleside, has been acquired from the intending builders, and is now in the hands of the National Trust.

WILTSHIRE.—At the request of the County Council a list of earthworks in the county, worthy of preservation, has been compiled by Mr. B. H. Cunningham and the Rev. E. H. Goddard, and has been printed.

YORKSHIRE.—The plans and sketches of earthworks on the Yorkshire Wolds, made by the late Mr. J. R. Mortimer, of Driffield, are now in the care of Mr. T. Sheppard, Curator of the Hull Municipal Museum.

———. The Hunter Archaeological Society is endeavouring to raise funds to buy the site of the Roman Camp at Templeborough, between Sheffield and Rotherham, with a view to its examination and preservation in perpetuity.

———. The North Riding County Council offered to take charge of Rey Cross, on Bowes Moor, but the Lords in Trust of Bowes Manor were unwilling to part with the control.

———. A section of the Roman road on Wheeldale Moor, near Goathland, has been placed under the protection of the Ancient

prevent stone being taken from the earthworks at Penller Castell on Mynydd Gwair, above Llangyfelach. These earthworks, which are in a very lonely place and seldom visited, will be placed under the charge of the wardens of the common.

HAMPSHIRE.—Endeavours are being made by the Hampshire Field Club to save Winkelbury Camp, near Basingstoke, from threatened destruction, owing to its sale for building purposes to a small-holders' Company. The price asked is too great to admit of its acquisition by the Club, but attempts are still being made to avert the danger.

LANCASHIRE.—The North Lonsdale Field Club reports favourably as to the steps taken for the preservation of earthworks in its district.

LEICESTERSHIRE.—A Committee has been appointed to prepare a list of objects to be scheduled as ancient monuments.

SHROPSHIRE.—A Committee has been formed in the county with members in every district to watch for any proposed alteration, or removal, of ancient remains.

SURREY.—The Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society is carrying out a Regional Survey of a considerable area round Croydon, in which earthworks and other ancient remains will be included.

———. The same Society recently visited Castlehill, near Godstone, where the 6-inch Ordnance Map marks "Remains of camp." Actually the Society found in existence a promontory camp in a rather unusual position, fairly perfect and in good preservation, except that the ditch appears to have been ploughed out.

———. There has been some correspondence in the Press, initiated by the Earl of Rosebery, respecting the preservation and

ENGLAND AND WALES.

PRESERVATION AND RECORD.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.—The risk of the “Bulwarks,” the unique Civil War ramparts at Carmarthen, being damaged by builders, has been represented by the Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society and Field Club to the Royal Commission on Ancient Historical Monuments for Wales and Monmouthshire.

CUMBERLAND.—The megalithic circle near Keswick has been acquired by Canon Rawnsley for the National Trust.

DENBIGHSHIRE.—A fine bronze age tumulus, at Llanrwst, has been saved from sudden demolition at the hands of a farmer by the timely intervention of the Nant Conwy Antiquarian Society. (See also under Exploration.)

DORSETSHIRE.—The Earthworks Committee of the Dorset Field Club has appointed ten members to visit, measure, describe and mark on the 6-inch Ordnance Map, all the earthworks and megalithic remains in five selected parishes, two members to each parish. When this work is complete five other parishes will be chosen for similar work.

———. Maiden Castle has been purchased by the Duchy of Cornwall. It was already one of the few monuments scheduled under the Ancient Monuments Act. Mr. C. R. Peers, Secretary, S.A., Inspector of Ancient Monuments, has had extensive works carried out to counteract the damage done by rabbits, and the slopes of the banks are in far better condition than they have been for years.

GLAMORGAN.—Colonel W. Ll. Morgan reports that he has arranged with Mr. Glyn Price, agent of the Duke of Beaufort, to

works, such as the Fleam and the Devil's Dykes. It was observed that the Manœuvres Instructions issued by the War Office, while calling attention to the importance of ancient monuments being respected during the operations, gave an inadequate description of the class of monuments likely to be injured unwittingly. Attention was called to this, and the instructions were amended in accordance with the Committee's suggestions. The Committee desire to thank the War Office for their action and for their anxiety to prevent damage to ancient monuments under their charge. They also desire to tender their thanks to General Sir A. J. Murray, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., Chief Compensation Officer at the manœuvres, for the personal interest he took in this question.

For other points of interest the Committee would refer to the various items of information which have reached them, which follow under the usual headings. In order to shorten the Report it has been necessary to exclude from it and from the Bibliography various notes that have been sent in respecting masonry works, Roman and other, which are outside the proper sphere of the Committee.

In conclusion they wish to tender their thanks to the Secretaries of the various Societies affiliated to the Union, as well as to all correspondents who have helped them in their work, or supplied them with information for their Report.

tion can enable public bodies interested in the preservation of ancient remains to intervene effectually in such cases. The Committee suggest that Archaeological and Architectural Societies should be invited to urge upon their Members of Parliament and other influential individuals the desirability of the "Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Bill," which has been introduced into the House of Lords during the present Session, being proceeded with.

The information received for the Report shows that there is increasing activity in the preservation and recording of ancient earthworks, and the Committee are glad to note the acquisition of Maiden Castle, Dorchester, Dorset, by the Duchy of Cornwall. This appears to have already resulted in steps being taken to repair damage to the ramparts.

The appointment of Royal Commissions for recording ancient historic monuments is undoubtedly having an excellent effect in calling public attention to their great value. The Committee are glad to state that the scheme for Recording Ancient Defensive Earthworks, etc., adopted by the Congress of Archaeological Societies, is used by the Royal Commission for Wales and Monmouth. The Royal Commission for England, however, while following generally the scheme of classification recommended by the Committee, so far as it is applicable, do not see their way to quote in their Reports the division into classes recommended in the scheme.

The Army Manœuvres for 1912 took place near Cambridge in a district traversed by important earth-

REPORT OF THE EARTHWORKS COMMITTEE.

The Committee are glad to say that the instances of damage or destruction included in this year's Report are fewer, and, on the whole, less serious than last year. The gravest cases are perhaps the destruction of ancient remains near Bristol, in the course of preparing the show-ground for the annual meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, and the damage to Bokerly Dyke, reported by Mr. H. St. George Gray. In the former case the Committee have appealed to the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society to discourage such vandalism in connection with their shows, but up to the present their appeal has been merely acknowledged. They regard the fact of damage of the kind reported being done with the apparent sanction of so important a public body as very serious.

In the case of Bokerly Dyke there seems a danger of the damage continuing, and it is to be hoped that the Dorset Field Club and the Wiltshire Archaeological Society will use their influence to have it stopped, and to have this important earthwork placed under proper protection.

Various instances of the continued destruction of earthworks for commercial purposes, such as quarrying, reappear in the Report. Nothing but further legisla-

CONGRESS of ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES,

JUNE 26th, 1913.

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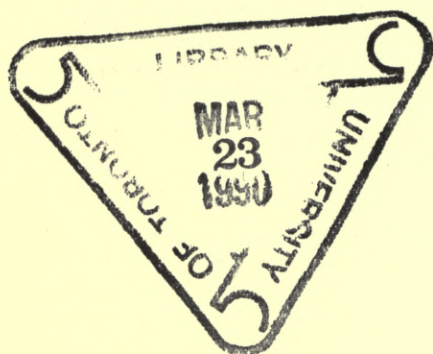
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